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HISTORY & DEVELOPMENT
OF
CALIFORNIA
PENNSYLVANIA

One Hundred Years
of
PROGRESS

1849 - 1949

Copyright June 1949
MRS. NAN HORNBAKE

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Set, printed and bound in the United States of America,
for the California Centennial at California, Pennsylvania,
June 5 to June 11, by the Sutton Printing
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HISTORY & DEVELOPMENT
OF
CALIFORNIA
PENNSYLVANIA

Written especially for the
CALIFORNIA CENTENNIAL
JUNE 5 - JUNE 11, 1949

by
MRS. NAN HORNBAKE
Centennial Historian



MRS. NAN HORNBAKE

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ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF LIFE - - HARDSHIP AND HAPPINESS

1849-1949

1351114

Being a Brief History of the Founding of
Our Beloved Community, together
with an Account of Its Growth.

Designed especially for the California Centennial by Anthony T. Stavaski
and Printed by the Sutton Printing Company, Waynesburg, Pennsylvania

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Preface



The year 1949 marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of California, Pennsylvania. One hundred years of life in California is sufficient to warrant a moment's pause—and a backward glance—before looking ahead to the years that are to come.

Therefore you are invited to reminisce a while within these brief pages.

Only part of the history is told in these pages. There is no desire to inflict a long, detailed amount of the 100 YEARS OF PROGRESS OF CALIFORNIA and the people who made it grow in spite of many hardships. The community, after all, is only a symbol of something greater.

This book not only tells you something about the community, and what has been accomplished, but tells also about the religious growth, the educational progress, and the early personages. The intangible qualities of personality and character are what matter most. The qualities that made this community great are both an inheritance and a development. These are pointed out as you read about the men and women who proved the qualities in the early years of their manhood and womanhood.

Thank You, So Much

DR. R. M. STEELE, President of the Teachers College, for the use of records, without which the history of the college could not have been written.

ANTHONY T. STAVASKI, of the Teachers College, whose knowledge of printing and the format of publication was of inestimable value.

MISS SARAH GAVIN, of the Vesta Office, for her expert secretarial help which made this book possible.

MRS. MARGARITE CARUSCO, of the Sentinel Office, for the use of back files of the town paper, and other useful material.

MR. WALTER DUFF, for the loan of old records of the G. A. R.

The BUTTERMORES, singly and collectively, for the sending and receiving of messages, germane to the history of California.

MR. HUGH DARROCH, corner of Second Street and College Avenue, for his knowledge and memory of the early coal mines of our vicinity.

DR. H. D. WILKINS for authentic information of our Post Office, past and present.

THE MEMBERS of the various churches, clubs and organizations who gave brief resumes of their activities.

JONES PHOTOENGRAVING CO., Uniontown, Pa., Engravings from original copy.

MISS ELIZABETH HOLMES MORGAN. To Miss Morgan, goes our greatest thanks for information, she alone could produce. In the chapter on our "Early Journalistic History" not one word would have been possible had she not preserved the old issues of those publications. Had she lived today, I am sure she could have been of the greatest help in the early happenings of our town. As a member of the Methodist Church, a charter member of the D.A.R., Century Club, Friday Afternoon Club, The Ladies Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, and other organizations, she, perhaps, was better informed than any other on town affairs.

Miss Morgan and I worked together on the Board of Health, the Relief Association and the Red Cross, and her reports of their labor were accurate and inclusive.

Miss Morgan died July 7, 1947, and we who knew her best, know best what the town lost in her passing, and we say with Wordsworth:

"But yet I know, where'er I go, that there hath passed away a glory from the earth."

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Our Earliest History

Incorporated Charter of Borough of California

California Borough. To the
 Incorporation Charter. Honorable the
 Court of Common Pleas, now holding a
 Court of Quarter Session in and for
 Washington County.

The petitioners of the
 inhabitants of the town of California
 in said County Respectfully represent,
 that they are desirous to be incorpo-
 rated into a Borough in the same style
 and title of the Borough and Charter
 of the Borough of California in the
 County of Washington according to the
 boundaries hereto annexed, that the
 said town contains not less than
 three hundred inhabitants, and
 their petition is signed by a majority
 of the freeholders residing within
 the limits of the same, your peti-
 tioners therefore pray your Honors
 to cause this application to be laid
 before the Grand Jury of this County
 and make such order as shall appear
 to be directed by the Act of Assembly
 passed the first day of April 1834
 entitled an act to provide for the
 incorporation of Boroughs and cities
 within this County.

T. H. Smith, J. M. Johnson,
 John Johnson, Cyrus Smith,
 James Stark, M. M. Hall, Jr.

Charter of the Borough of California

Charter of the Borough of California

In the matter of the Borough of California
and its incorporation.

Whereas the inhabitants of California in
the County of Santa Clara, and the Court of Santa Clara Superior
Judicial District, do hereby certify to the Court of Santa Clara
that the said town may be incorporated into a Borough
and therefore the said application was by and on
behalf of the said town, to the act of Assembly passed at the
session of the said Legislature, entitled an act to provide for the
incorporation of boroughs, and the said Court of Santa Clara
after a full investigation of the case, reported that
the conditions prescribed by the act of Assembly have
been complied with, and certified the same to the Court.

And now to wit, May 26th 1888, no
objection having been made against the incorporation of
said Borough, the Court therefore do order and decree that
the said town shall be incorporated into a Borough &
be subject to all the provisions of the act of Assembly
passed the 2nd of April 1887, entitled an act Regulating
Boroughs, and the said Borough shall be a separate
election and school district. And the Court
appointed the following named persons to hold the
first election, and to give notice thereof.

And

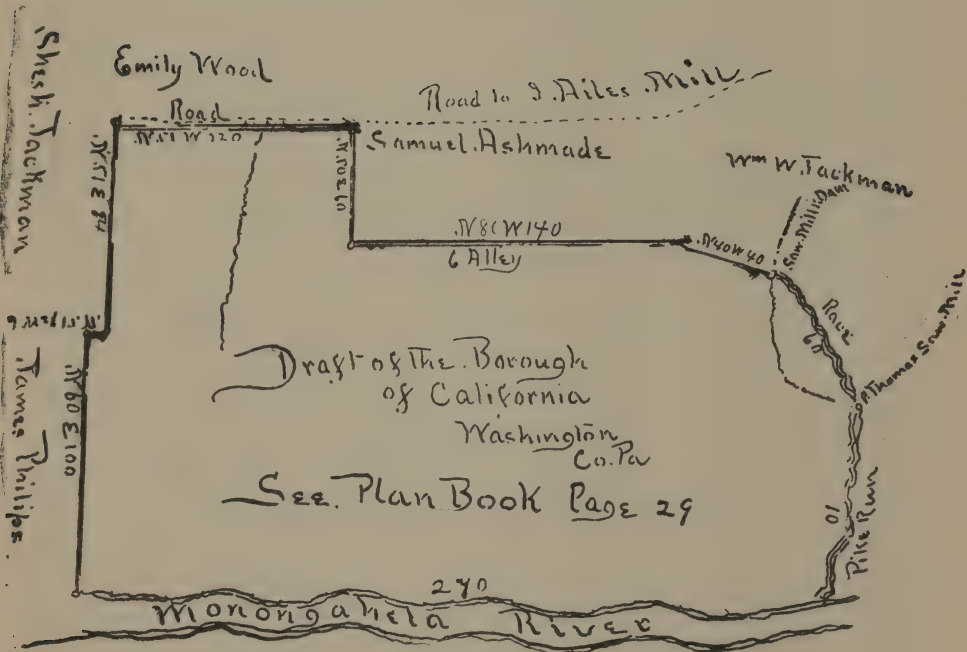
to wit:

Superior, Samuel R. Bennett & Wm. C. C. C.

To give notice of the election. In witness whereof

at the Court of Santa Clara, County of Santa Clara, State of California, this 26th day of May 1888.
The Court of Santa Clara, do hereby certify that the same have been complied with, and certified the same to the Court.

George T. Johnson Clerk



OUR EARLIEST CALIFORNIA

OUR EARLIEST HISTORY is one of the most interesting pages of the Pennsylvania Story. King George, the third, on October 7, 1763, had forbidden any settlements west of the Alleghenies, and two years later—1765—again warned John Penn, Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania, to allow no new settler in this part of the state, and to see that those who were here were evacuated immediately. At that time this part of Pennsylvania was claimed by both Pennsylvania and Virginia, but our General Assembly and the Governor of Virginia agreed that the land west of the mountains belonged to the Indian. Even the English General Gage offered his troops from Fort Pitt to drive the squatters out.

But the white man continued to come in 1767, the story is, that the Indians met on the present site of our town to voice their anger at the "status quo," their Chief being one Sagamoor, aided and abetted by another mighty red man from over Washington Way—Catfish.

Our Assembly passed a law warning settlers around Fort Red Stone, Brownsville, and the shores of the Monongahela to leave pronto, and when this order was not obeyed, Penn sent the Rev. John Steel, a Presbyterian Minister of Carlisle, John Allison, Christopher Lemes and Capt. James Porter, to Red Stone Fort to post notice that all must obey the government order to leave. There were many Indians at this gathering of February 1768, including eight Indian Chiefs—Pouch, Gilley, Hornet, Haven, Slewbelles, Mygog Wigo, Nogowach and Strikebelt—all coming from the Mingo towns in the Ohio Country. These chiefs had camped across the river on land belonging to Indian Peter, now the site of our town, California.

There are two traditions as to how Samuel Young—the first white man to lay claim to the land on which California is located—came into possession of it.

1ST. The claim that he received the land by Royal Grant from King James of England, a statement that could be proved untenable, chronologically, by any student of history.

2ND. That he purchased the land from William Peters, a friendly Indian, familiarly known as "Indian Peter."

In support of the latter claim I quote from the surveyors' record in Washington County Recorder's Office:

"In pursuance to an order, No. 2844 dated 5th of April, 1769, the above is a Draught of a tract of land, called Indian Hill, containing 339 acres and the usual allowance of 6% for roads, etc., situate on the west side Monongahela, surveyed 7th of Oct. 1769, for William Peters, alias Indian Peter, by James Hendricks, D.A.

To John Lukens, Esq.,
Surveyor, General."

Because of this order, it is said, Indian Peter claimed much land not included in the above and sold accordingly, and part of it may have found its way into the hands of Samuel Young. However valid or invalid his claim, the said Samuel Young sold 304 acres of this land to Robert Jackman, who took out a patent for it under the laws of Pennsylvania. This deed bears the date of 1784. Mr.

Jackman, a man of great business acumen, continued to increase his acreage until he owned practically all the land now included in California, Coal Center, East and West Pike Run Townships. Mr. Jackman died in 1813, leaving his vast real estate holdings to his six sons, the land comprising California going to James and William Jackman. These two men failed to retain the land and it was sold at Sheriff's sale to Seth Buffington, who later transferred his interest to John Ringland. Mr. Ringland died in 1845 and three years later, 1848, his heirs sold 304 acres to a company composed of Job Johnson, George W. Hornbake, Abram Frye, William Jackman, William Ashmead and John Wood, who on May 1, 1849, plotted what is now the older part of California, or all that section between Pike Run and Green Street, as shown in Plan Book Page 29, Washington County Court House. It was a rather hopeless looking proposition. The river, being the natural drainage for the higher land lying south of the proposed town, had caused deep gullies and revines, which sometimes became raging torrents, as the waters rushed to the river on their way to the sea. As this group of pioneers stood on the river bank, fearing they had made a mistake in the hope of building a town, there was a whistle from the Steamer "Atlantic," Captain Parkinson, Master, L. W. Morgan, Clerk, on its way to Pittsburgh. After returning the salute, Job Johnson remarked, "Living along that river is all we need."

At plotting the streets, as now, crossed at right angles, and thanks to Job Johnson, were uncommonly wide for that time—65 feet from curb to curb.

The streets running parallel to the river were named in numerical order: 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. Those running in the opposite direction, beginning at the lower end of town, were: Mechanic, Ash, Union, Liberty, Wood and Green. College Avenue came later, and the extensions of 3rd, 4th, 5th, and Park and Hickory Streets very much later.

Building lots were laid out in groups of three and were 50 x 150 ft. in area. Each group of three being bounded by two streets and two alleys. These lots sold originally from \$15.00 to \$75.00 per lot.

Not all of the 304 acres bought by the incorporators was in the original plot of our borough, the company having selected 100 acres of the best located land for their enterprise; but those who can remember the swamps and unevenness of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Streets, necessitating elevated walks—called the "King's High Ways"—would call even the 100 acres far from good. Practically all of the first houses in California can be recognized by the fact that they are built of brick—hand pressed brick—because brick was cheap and kilns were plenty. At plotting not a house stood on the present site of our town—just one large rutted cornfield—for that was before the days of contour farming. According to Mr. L. W. Morgan's story of California in the "History of Washington County 1910," Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Moore constructed the first house in the town, and a son, Job Johnson Moore, was born to them there. The son was given a town lot, for being the first child born in California, but refused to accept it because "it was nothing but a ravine." Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Moore later sold this house to Jacob Hornbake, where Squire Hornbake lived for nearly 80 years. It is now the property of Mrs. Clara Conti—corner of 2nd Street and Temperance Alley.

Following closely the Moore house, came California's first hotel, the Johnson House, corner 1st and Wood Streets, lately owned by the Vesta Coal Company and used as a tenement for some of its employes. In this building was housed our station of the Underground Railroad, and later the first depot of the P. V. & C. Railroad and was used for that purpose until the present structure was erected. At the same time John Woodfill built the brick part of the house, occupied by Mr. Califfie's "Funeral Parlor," and the older part of the Peoples Bank was erected by Josiah Critchfield. A little later Solomon Fry built the house at the juncture of 2nd and Union, now the Arlington Hotel, and George Eberman property just below the American Legion Hall. Other old houses are: The Morgan property on Third Street, the home of Dr. Brickley on College Avenue, and many others just outside our borough limits.

The year 1849 was a memorable one in American History for that year gold was found at the root of a tree—a la Mother Shipton—in California State. The excitement caused by this discovery reached "every hamlet, village and town" and even to the plottres of an un-named one on the crumbling banks of an Indian named river. To Miss Elizabeth Wilkens of Greenfield (Coal Center) is credited the first suggestion that the town be called "California," and thus our name. However, our town has had three names. Before it became officially California, one or more deeds bore the name of Columbia. Later, after the lure of the gold fields had subsided somewhat, Prof. C. L. Ehrenfeld, Principal of our Normal School, suggested that we change the name to "Sagamore," in memory of the Indian Chief of 1767 Pow-wow fame. Prof. Ehrenfeld went so far as to call it that in the school catalog of 1874-1875. There is only one of those catalogs in existence, so far as I know. It belongs to Mrs. J. L. Griffin of Wood Street, California. But when the full impact of the town's angry resentment struck him, Prof. Ehrenfeld, too, thought California was the name for us.

In 1853, a petition signed by 56 freeholders was presented to the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Washington County praying for the incorporation of our town into a borough. On this petition the name of but one woman appears—Mrs. Craven. This petition was recommended by the Grand Jury of Washington County on August 25, 1853, granted by the Court November 26, 1853, and recorded March 10, 1854. The newly incorporated borough held its first election that spring, with the following result:

Burgess	Solomon Sibbitt
Councilmen	James P. Ailes, St. Clair Chrissinger, L. W. Morgan, Wm. Carroll
Clerk	S. S. Rothwell
High Constable	Henry Phillips
Street Commissioner	Joshua Norcross

And now California was ready to assume all the duties and prerogatives of her new dignity—a borough no less. But even before becoming a borough our town had not been idle. The year 1851 saw the birth of three enterprises, two of which were to shape our destiny even after the passing of a century, viz.:

- (1) Construction of our boat yard.
- (2) Opening of our first public school.
- (3) Start of our coal industry.

CALIFORNIA'S EARLY JOURNALISTIC HISTORY

1860 to 1884

By Nan Hornbake

From the Historical Edition of the California Sentinel December 16, 1904,
I copy:

"The early history of the California Sentinel is exceedingly difficult to relate, as it has been almost impossible to secure authentic data concerning it. The files of the office, through some mischance, were totally destroyed a few years ago, and as a consequence the period covered by those files is a blank, excepting the few details furnished by those of our citizens who were in some way associated with the paper."

But, thanks to my friend, and the friend of many, many Californians, the late Miss Elizabeth Morgan and Miss Morgan's aunt, Miss Ellie Gregg, I am able to trace our paper's beginning to its source.

Our first paper introduced itself to its readers February 4, 1860, in this manner:

Monongahela Valley Spirit

Devoted to Politics, News, Literature, Agriculture, Education, Etc.

To be published every Saturday, in California, Washington, County, Pa.

E. Lichterberger, Publisher.

Office on the Corner of First & Union Streets.

Terms:

\$1.00 per year if paid in advance or \$1.50 if not paid within three months.

All communications or business letters must be addressed to the Publisher,
Pike Run, Washington, County, Pa.

—California had no Post Office until 1865.—Pike Run Post Office was located at Granville.

The "Spirit" entered the editorial field just at the Nation's most crucial moment, and stoutly asserted its absolute republicanism. It requested Republican Clubs of both counties to furnish notices of their meetings as well as their proceedings.

The issues of February, 1860, carried no local or social news, but news political filled its pages: The Centerville Meeting—Hon. Andrew Steward, Fayette Co., Speaker, Lincoln and the Tariff, Lincoln on the Mexican War, etc., with this one light note.

"Patterson Scott's Ice Cream Saloon, in Greenfield, we observe, is crowded every evening. Pat is some on Cream, but the reader needn't take our word for it. The "proof of the pudding, is—" well, go and try it yourself.

At Morgan's corner is the place,
Just call and see Pat face to face;
And if his cream you do not relish,
Your appetite is surely hellish."

California's first paper carried these advertisements:

BUSINESS DIRECTORY OF GREENFIELD (COAL CENTER)

L. W. Morgan	Corner of Federal & Spring Streets
Smith & Hornbake	Spring Street
J. B. Montgomery	Spring Street
John R. Gregg	Spring Street
John Long	Water Street
John Duvall	Federal Street
Jacob Qualk	Federal Street

Dr. N. W. Truxal	Short Street
Dr. H. S. Chalfant	Corner of Spring & Water Streets
Lewis Shutterly, Attorney at Law	Spring Street

CALIFORNIA DRY GOODS STORES

E. W. Barris	Corner of Union & Third Streets
S. Sickman	Corner of Union & Third Streets

MERCHANT TAILOR

A. A. Devore	Second near Union St.
--------------	-----------------------

HOTEL

Geo. Johnson	Corner of First & Wood Streets
--------------	--------------------------------

ATTORNEY AT LAW

Job Johnson	Corner of First & Wood Streets
-------------	--------------------------------

CARPENTERS

James P. Ailes	Corner of Main & Fifth Streets
Joseph Powell	Third Street

BOAT BUILDING

George Eberman	Green Street
Wm. McFall	Green Street

BLACKSMITH

Hays Jacobs	First Street
-------------	--------------

BRICK MOULDER

Wm. Carrell, Esq.	Third Street
-------------------	--------------

The issue of Saturday, August 18, 1860, contains this Republican Ticket:

PRESIDENT—Hon. Abraham Lincoln	Illinois
VICE PRESIDENT—Hon. Hannibal Hamlin	Maine
GOVERNOR—Hon. Andrew G. Curtin	Center Co.
CONGRESS—Andrew Stewart	Fayette Co.
SENATE—G. V. Lawrence	Washington Co.
ASSEMBLY—John A. Happer	of Union
Dr. R. Anderson	Cross Creek
PROTHONOTARY—James B. Ruple	Washington

REGISTER—Wm. A. Mickey	West Pike Run
RECORDER—Wm. H. Horn	West Bethlehem
CLERK OF COURTS—David Aiken	Washington
COMMISSIONER—J. S. Elliot	Cecil
AUDITOR—David Bradford	Chartiers
DIRECTOR OF THE POOR—William Wiley	Canton

In the "good old days" to receive the Republican nomination in Washington County was tantamount to election, so all the above received the offices sought.

Mr. Lichteberger carried on the publication of the "Spirit," solo, until June 1, 1861, when Dr. N. W. Truxal was added to the editorial force. The Doctor has this to say:

"As the duties as Editor of this paper will only occupy a small portion of my time, having nothing to do with the mechanical department, they will not interfere with the practice of my profession.

N. W. Truxal, M.D."

The day of publication was changed from Saturday to Thursday of each week, and immediately showed improvement under the new combined leadership.

The June 13th issue must have been most interesting to the folks of Greenfield and California. In addition to a long article by Dr. Truxal explaining his reasons for repudiating the Democratic party to become a most enthusiastic Lincoln Republican, there are letters from California Soldiers located at Relay Station, Md., one of whom, at a distance of a mile put five balls out of six into the crown of an ordinary sized hat.

Notice of a meeting of the Adelphian Literary Society at the School Hall, 5th & Liberty Streets, on June 14.

Also: Shipbuilders offer to construct gun boats to operate on the Mississippi, within forty days.

CALIFORNIA MARKET

June 13, 1861

Butter, per lb.	10c
Cheese, per lb.	12½c
Hams, per lb.	12c
Shoulders, per lb.	10c
Chickens, per dozen	\$1.25 to \$1.50
Potatoes, per bushel	37½c

Lincoln's call for 75,000 men, after the surrender of Fort Sumpter, met with such a ready acceptance that many of the Volunteers of Greenfield and California found Pennsylvania's quota filled and were mustered in by Major Oato, on July 10, 1861, under the name of Company I, 2nd Regiment, Virginia Infantry. Later, when the loyal state of West Virginia was formed, this company was known as Company I, 5th West Virginia Cavalry. This company was enrolled, according to the "Spirit" in its edition of July 20, 1861, by Captain

Smith, and immediately left for Wheeling, Virginia. This company saw immediate service, for in the January 1, 1862, copy of the "Spirit" Lt. (later Captain) Truxal gives a three column account of "The Great Allegheny Mountain Battle" of December 13, 1861, in which Lt. Sickman, son of Samuel Sickman of lower Third Street, was killed. Our soldiers in this battle were:

Lts.: Truxal and J. Billingsley

Sergeants: Hornbake and Kent

Corporal: H. Devers

Surgeon: J. M. H. Gordon

Privates: W. H. H. Billingsley, Jacob Billingsley, Evans, Fitzsimmons, Crow, Geho, Graham, Howder, W. Latta, A. Latta, Jokes, McDonald, Lancaster, Marker, Marker, N. Young, Sivert, Thomas, Underwood, Wills and Wolf.

AN ELEGY

On the death of Lieutenant Sickman of Company "G" 2nd Virginia Regiment, who was killed in the battle with the rebels on Allegheny Mountain, December 13, 1861.

On the mountain's high summit the above soldier sleeps,*
And his angel broods o'er him, and bends down, and weeps;
'Tis a mother, perhaps, that came down from the skies,
When she saw her poor soldier-boy closing his eyes.

How tranquil his sleep! Now the cannons may roar,
And the battle may rage; but with him all is o'er;
And the tempests may sweep over the mountains and plain,
But the young warrior sleeps, nor shall waken again.

When the deep snows of winter shall cover his grave,
And the fierce winds shall howl, and the Storm-King shall rave;
Then the angel will wrap him in gold-tinseled wing,
And the birds of the mountain his requiem sing.

But the spring-time will come, and the wild flowers bloom
O'er the spot we have marked for the young soldier's tomb;
And the archangel's trumpet shall bid him arise,
And ascend with his angel to live in the skies.

Then, weep not, bereaved ones, though far, far away
On the mountain's high summit, thy loved one may stay.
For he died at his post, as the patriot dies,
And his angel broods o'er him till God bids him rise.

—N. W. Truxal.

*An effort was made to procure his body, but the rebels refused to respect a flag of truce, and he still sleeps on the mountain.

January 6, 1862, a new year and a new editor for the "Spirit," A. J. Gibson, who has this to say about the lateness of the paper's appearance: "We have but one apology to offer for the delay. For with the exception of a column of type set up by my esteemed young friend, Mr. D. Shutterly, I have had to fill the posts of editor, foreman, compositor, pressman and devil, besides the usual etceteras about the house, such as carrying water and sawing stove wood."

In this issue there is an account of the meeting of the Washington County Teachers Institute, conducted by Prof. J. C. Gilchrist, of California, principal of our Seminary, and later, 1866, to be himself County Superintendent of Washington County. The subjects discussed at the Institute were:

Arrangement of the School Room.

Means of securing punctuality in attendance.

For and against teaching the Alphabet, etc.

Under this date there was also an ad for the

California Seminary

Winter Session

J. C. Gilchrist

Principal

Miss M. E. Rothwell

Teacher of Intermediate

Miss Sally Rigs

Teacher of Primary

Just under the above:

Job Johnson

Attorney at Law and

Justice of the Peace

Office—Front St., California. Surveying and Drafting will be promptly attended. Collections in Washington and adjoining counties on reasonable terms.

Mr. Gibson's paper appeared spasmodically, but not regularly, for a few years, and with the close of the war gave more space to local affairs. In the edition of September 20, 1866, it records the meeting of the Union citizens of California on Thursday, August 30, to form a Union Club. The following officers were elected:

President_____T. H. Bowler
Vice Presidents___Wm. Fall, Ed Blinco, George Hornbake and Samuel Sickman
Secretary_____L. P. Frye

But what did this mean? "Mr. John Shanton, of Pike Run, is constructing a United States bonded warehouse, Class B, Schedule 12, for the storage of whiskey, in accordance with the late act of Congress. It is to be of stone, two stories high, with a capacity of thirteen hundred and sixty barrels. The building is located on Pike Run, about two and a half miles west of the borough of Greenfield."

Mr. Gibson was becoming very discouraged with the patronage accorded his paper and when this notice appeared in the *Monongahela Republican* of October 18, 1866,

"A new paper in Washington County.—Mr. G. W. Hiller, a practical printer, and a gentleman of worth and ability, has issued a prospectus for the publication of a new weekly paper at California, Washington County, under the title of the "*California Repository*." It is announced that the *Repository* will be devoted to the interests which center in the Monongahela Valley, and that in politics it will be thoroughly Republican. The first number will be issued on the 6th of October next. Mr. Hiller has the ability and industry requisite to make a good paper, and we trust that the people interested in having a "home organ," will extend to him a liberal support."

he folded his tent like the Arab and as silently stole away.

For the next ten years California lived, moved and had its being without a local newspaper; but for over a year now we had a post office and papers from Washington. Monongahela, and Brownsville were served to Californians.

Then came May 4, 1877, and a new paper, a new editor and a new name. On that date arrived "*The Gazette*," E. H. Graves, Editor and Publisher, who enthusiastically informed all and sundry that his paper had come to stay, for had he not been repeatedly assured that a good local paper would be well patronized, also independent? And then this six months later—October 25, 1877:

THE SAME OLD STORY

"We have labored hard to present you with a good readable paper, but we are not receiving, and have at no time received sufficient patronage from the people of California to cover the expense of printing the paper, and we deem it advisable to discontinue the publication with this number."

Mr. Graves, also, asked for the settlement of all outstanding accounts, which appeared to be rather numerous. Mr. Graves added, however, that he would continue to do Book and Job Printing at the same old stand—Corner of First & Union Streets.

Finally, as even the Book and Job Printing failed to justify the existence, the presses, and all other paraphernalia of the printing shop were carted away and stored in what was known as Jackman Hall, Coal Center. This is the first brick building on your right as you enter Coal Center from California. This information was given me by Mrs. Jennie Franz, of Fifth Street, a former resident of Coal Center. There the machines rested and gathered dust for five years, when again we had a new paper, a new editor, and a new location. This was the "Valley Messenger," William Minehart, editor and publisher, 1884; office in the old Solomon Frye Building—now known as the Arlington Hotel—where after two years, it, too, died of inanition. Maybe we were too young? A town of

No Street Lights

No Sidewalks with the name

No Paved Streets

No Card Playing—except on the River Bank

No Movies

No Women Clubs

No Railroad

No Banks

And yet, we did have the river and its boats, the best school along the Valley, our coal was coming into its own, no saloon nearer than Brownsville, three churches, and the best people in all the world.

The time of a permanent paper for California had come, and if you wish to know about it, the files of the California Sentinel since 1884 are complete. from there on.

Our Industrial History

CALIFORNIA'S UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

The year which saw the plotting of our town also witnessed the assembling of the 31st Congress of the U. S. This Congress, according to the historian Muzzey, contained the greatest political geniuses of the first rank, ever assembled, before or since. Its members included such men as Clay, Webster, Calhoun, Benton, Cass, Davis, Seward and others of lesser importance—but all great men. This 31st Congress, after a most bitter fight, passed the Clay "Omnibus Bill," the fifth provision of which concerned "Fugitive Slaves." This provision made jury trial for Negroes impossible, and not only marshals, but all good citizens of any state must aid in the seizure of runaway slaves.

For some years prior to 1850 there had been in operation all along the north-east bank of the Ohio River a system called the "underground railroad," whose object was to give "all out aid" to slaves trying to reach Canada. This had not been a very risky business under the old slave law of 1793 but under the new law of 1850 it became a Federal offense, with no mercy shown, to aid in any way, an escaping Negro. Even some democrats, under whose sponsorship the 1850 law was passed, denounced the Clay bill as a cowardly surrender to empty threats from the South.

Despite all the danger incurred by disobedience of the 5th Provision of the Omnibus Bill, our town, young as it was, immediately became a station of the "Underground"

According to an authentic map, showing the chief routes of this Underground, which lies before me now, California had two sources for its supply of runaways—Cumberland, Maryland, and Morgantown, Virginia—West Virginia did not become a state until 1863. Those slaves coming from Morgantown generally by-passed our town at Malden and followed the Old Cumberland Road—the present National Pike—to Pittsburgh or Washington, Pa. An interesting little pamphlet by the late Howard Wallace, of the Centerville district, will be re-printed shortly by the Sentinel Printing Company. This book, published by the permission of Mr. Wallace's daughter, Mrs. Minnie Thompson, R.D. 1, West Brownsville, gives the actual facts and impressions of one who travelled the Underground to its ultimate destination—Canada.

The runaways from Cumberland, upon reaching Pittsburgh, were hidden on boats destined for the upper Monongahela. Some of these were unloaded at the California wharf, at the foot of Union Street, and quickly hustled up First Street to the Job Johnson Hotel, corner of First and Wood Streets. This building, which until recently belonged to the Vesta Coal Interests, is now used as an apartment building. The Johnson Hotel contained two hiding places, one in the basement, the other on the second floor. I have seen the one on the upper floor, and have had the basement hide-a-way described by those who have seen it. For the upper hide-a-way you entered the first door to Wood Street, went up a flight of stairs and turned to your left. There was no opening to the room itself from the hall, as the room was practically nothing but a large closet, ventilated by a

chimney from the roof. There was a fire place in an adjoining room and this chimney took care of both outlets. If any of you have read "The Hearth and the Eagle," by Anya Seton, her description of the hiding of two runaway slaves by the Underground at Marblehead, Mass., might have been enacted at California.

I have been told, that when the scent of the hunters became to acute, the fugitive slaves were secreted in the old stone house at the upper end of Park Street, known as the Shutterly Home. It may be that there were other stout hearted Californians who, also, engaged in this "contrabrand of war," to the extent of providing a haven for the victims of Clay's "Fugitive Slave Law." It became the duty of Job Johnson to see that the fugitives reached the next station, Washington. The following is the "Historical Sketch of the Underground Railroad from Uniontown to Pittsburgh," by Howard Wallace.

HOWARD WALLACE'S

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD FROM UNIONTOWN TO PITTSBURGH

I was born in a small house near what is known as Moffit's Mill in West Pike Run Township February 24, 1831. My father's name was William Wallace. I attended the common schools in this vicinity and acquired a common school education. I followed farming and gardening until I reached manhood, then I learned the cooper trade, which I followed for several years until paper sacks and other things took the place of barrels. I then followed butchering, farming and huckstering which I have worked at more or less ever since. I have spent nearly all my life in Centerville and vicinity.

During the year 1854 I went to Canada and spent some time there employed at railroad repairs. I returned in a few years and married and settled again in this vicinity. I was elected a Jury Commissioner for Washington County in 1888 and served a term of three years. I have been a member of A. M. E. Church at Pike Run for nearly sixty years. I now reside on the old Smith farm near Taylor's Church.

Anyone wishing to purchase a sketch of the Under Ground Railroad can do so at any time.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

I shall write a history of the Under Ground Railroad from Uniontown to Pittsburgh. It was in the forties, the route beginning at Uniontown and ending at Pittsburgh. There was a colored man by the name of Curry who cared for the slaves while in Uniontown, also another named John Payne. It was always a mystery to many people just how the Under Ground Railroad was carried on. I find that I am the only one living that aided in helping the slaves through. So, therefore, I will give a full account of the route. In the first place, it was a

mystery how they found their way North through the mountains, wilderness and deep ravines, but many of them told me that the North Star was their guide. Some by another guide, the moss on the trees always growing on the North side of the trees. They were trying to come North, hearing that the Northern States were free. They encountered great hardships—were weeks on their journey, were greatly fatigued, starved and sustained bruised feet from walking. They would walk all night and hide under rocks and brambles during the day. It took great courage, and many times they were almost ready to give up and die. In fact, many did. I have conversed with many who made the trip. It was heart rendering to hear them tell of the many difficulties. It was almost life or death with them. They were hunted as the partridge on the prairie. It was only by the hand of Providence that they ever reached the free states. When they arrived at Uniontown they were received by Messrs. Curry and Payne. At times they were closely pursued by their masters, but were kept concealed until a proper time came to move them. Often large sums of money were offered as rewards, so the whole affair had to be kept very quiet. At Hopwood, a small settlement near Uniontown, inhabitants at that time were considered very rough, and many of them would have betrayed the escaping slaves for a very small sum. So it took well planned schemes to help the slaves through. I have talked with many who thought they would be pretty safe when they reached Uniontown. But, alas! there were still many difficulties before they reached the goal of absolute security. They were piloted by night to Brownsville by John Payne and others. They were welcomed by other colored men, namely, Lloyd Demas, Simeon Artis and Thomas Cain. I will mention some white friends who had sympathy for the slaves: Andrew Hopkins, James Moffitt, Esq., and others who contributed clothing and other means to help them along. I might recall an incident that happened at Mr. Curry's house. A number of slaves were secreted in his house one day when their masters and others who were on their trail arrived at Curry's house in search of them. The slaves heard their pursuers talking, but fortunately there was a trap door leading into the cellar where they were concealed that was overlooked. So the slaves were not deprived of their liberty.

FROM BROWNSVILLE TO CENTERVILLE

I will now describe the route from Brownsville to William Wallace's, who lived on the farm now owned by Lewis Deems, near Centerville. When they left Brownsville in company with Lloyd Demas and others, they would generally go up the river to where the Diamond coal works are now situated, thence up through Denbo, which at that time was a dense forest, but they were piloted by the old pioneers until they reached the old National Pike coming out between C. I. Dorsey's residence and Malden, thence up the Pike to where the gate now stands on the farm owned by William Pepper, thence to the Pike Run road, then across the field to William Wallace's, the house now occupied by Lewis Deems. It was considered about the best stopping place on the route. I cannot tell just how long the underground railroad was carried on, but this place was on the main route for a number of years. It was mostly through the Summer season that they would travel. This was a house having a large cellar where the slaves liked to stay during the day. Some of them would venture out at night and walk around while others were very much afraid of the white people and

would stay very close. Sometimes they were almost worn out when they arrived and were glad to have an opportunity to rest. We generally made it a point to solicit aid from the farmers and neighbors who were always willing to help, especially the Quakers. I do not think I ever had one to refuse me. Their contributions were always liberal. I shall always have a warm place in my heart for the Friends. They have done many things for our downtrodden race. I was born and raised among the Quakers. When we wanted horses they would let us have them. The gentleman I worked for was Nathan Pusey; he had fine horses and many a long trip I made at night. I remember one time we were short of horses, having five fugitives to take. I went to Samuel Taylor for his horses. They were just loose from the plow and had done a hard day's work. He studied awhile but finally said yes.

After they were fed old Suse and Bill were soon ready for the trip to Ginger Hill that night. We always had plenty of help. Benjamin Wheeler, Sam Wheeler, Joseph Steward and Henry Smith always assisted when they were needed. Some of our trips were made to Ginger Hill where a man by the name of Milton Maxwell lived. He would then take charge of them and forward them on to Pittsburgh. The main route from Wm. Wallace's was to Maple Creek, but sometimes we went by the way of Ginger Hill. When they were taken to Maple Creek they were kept by George Norris, also the Bowmans. They were conveyed from their houses to the river some place near where Donora is now located. They were taken in skiffs across to some place near Belle Vernon, where a small settlement of colored people lived, namely Rosses', Baisers' and Minneys', who were all willing to help. From their homes they were taken to Robstown, now called West Newton; from there to Pittsburgh where many of the slaves found employment and remained there until the fugitive slave law was enacted. Some of them were fortunate and had saved up and had homes, but after that they were afraid to remain there and even sacrificed their homes and fled to Canada by the scores.

Most everyone at the present time knows about the Fugitive Slave Law which was enacted in 1850. If my memory serves me right Howel Cobb of South Carolina introduced the bill which was passed. It was very strict and the slaves were compelled to flee for a place of safety. Just here I will describe the narrow escape of a fugitive in our neighborhood who was working for Nathan Cleaver. It will probably be recalled by some at the present time. The fugitive's name was Renols Parker. He escaped from a farm near Bentleyville, now known as the farm of W. H. Mitchell. It was soon after the bill was passed. He was pursued by eight rough men from Virginia, their leader being a man named Bob Stump. They came to Brownsville on the hunt for Parker. They finally got a clue to his whereabouts and just think, it took eight men to capture one small man, and then he escaped from them again. They arrived in Centerville early one morning but had hard work to get any information as to where he was at. But Israel Deems piloted them out to his father's house which was a little distance from the farm where Parker was at work. They ate their dinner at Deems, and fed their horses. They sent Jonathon Deems, a brother to Israel, to locate their quarry, so as to be sure just how to approach him. Jonathon saw him plowing in the field and notified the men who were soon at the scene well armed. The

slave was completely surrounded before he saw them. They halted him but he ran for the house which was a few hundred yards from the place. They fired shots after him but he reached the house and was soon upstairs. It was a small stairway of the kind usually found in old fashioned houses. The family was frantic; the men were inside the house but Parker said the first one that put his head up the stairway would have it smashed. They failed to go up, of course. The family soon notified the neighbors and in a short time the house was surrounded. The men were getting uneasy but had nothing to say, except Bob Stump who said "he would have his man." However, along toward evening a colored man by the name of Henry Smith and a white man named Isaac Vaile told Stump that they would obligate themselves to bring Parker to Brownsville next morning at ten o'clock. So they left but had only gone a short distance when Parker came down, bid farewell and left. But Bob Stump and his crew never saw Parker. It was only a scheme to free him. Had any one tested the law these two men could have been assessed large fines for not helping them to get Parker according to promise. While Stump and his party were enroute to Brownsville they met a regiment of colored men who had heard the news and were on their way to help Parker. They marched single file and were well armed to rescue Parker. Stump soon found out they had few sympathisers with them in Brownsville. In fact, James Moffit, Esq., and others encouraged him to move on as there was a rough set of niggers there and it was dangerous to stay, so they left as soon as possible and never were heard of afterwards.

Parker went to Canonsburg, his family followed, staying there for some time. I talked with him, also advised him to go to Canada, which he did.

The Fugitive Slave Law created quite a lot of excitement in Pittsburgh and there was considerable trouble about the slaves. But nearly all of them went to Canada for permanent safety where they were welcomed by the subjects of Queen Victoria. Their cry was "God bless the Queen." She stood with arms extended wide to give them all a home beyond the rolling tide.

In 1854 I went to Canada, where I remained for some time and while there met many of the slaves, but not many that went through here. There was quite a number of them working at Windsor, Canada, at that time. They were helping to build a railroad and many of our people found employment and were paid good wages. The ex-slaves worked very hard as they had never been used to wages. They did the principal part of the work from Windsor to Catham. After the work on the railroad was completed they got different kinds of employment, such as bricklaying, carpenter work, etc. Wood was used altogether as fuel, so wood chopping was quite an industry. The usual pay was fifty cents a cord and some strong men could chop from three to four cords a day. Most of the wood was basswood and was soft and not hard to chop. I was surprised to see the progress they had made. They thought it hard to pay rent, so many of them bought small pieces of ground and built log cabins about 12x14. They were built of small round logs covered with bark. When they cut large trees they would peel the bark off and put weights on it, and when it was dried they would use it as roofing. The floors were usually of dirt and the cabin consisted of one sleeping room and one for cooking. They also had a place for worship and were

nearly all Baptists. They also had a fine Sunday school and at one time I was a pupil. The teachers were nearly all white women who had run away with colored men from the South. They had pretty fair educations. It was a well governed school and many of the slaves, all of whom possessed no education whatever, were trying to learn to read and write. It seemed strange to me to see the old folks learning their A B Cs on cards, but they were trying hard to learn. I suppose one who never knew what it was to be without an education knows the real interest they took in learning. They also had day school. Of course in slavery the colored people were not allowed the privilege of education, but after all some of them made great progress. I, myself, knew a slave who learned to read and write from making it a practice to meet the school children coming home. He would ask them to make letters on the fence with chalk. He had such a great ambition to learn that from that little beginning he finally succeeded, and I knew him to the founder of one of our colored colleges, Wilberforce University, Greene County, O., where today hundreds of our boys and girls are preparing themselves for future usefulness and the building up of our race. I have children and near relatives graduated from that college. Long may the name of this great man live—Major James Wilkinson.

In Canada there were few saloons and the slave seemed moral, temperate and industrious. About once every year they would have what they called an association. They would meet and have a big time and everybody was made welcome. They would roast an ox and have a barbecue, and all were invited to partake. It was certainly a big day. People would come from all parts of the country and would leave for home all rejoicing and looking forward to the next year.

This ends the history of the Under Ground Railroad as far as I know and can remember.

CALIFORNIA'S BRICK YARDS

Brick making was quite an industry for many years in California, and many of the first houses were built of these good red brick. These brick were all "hand pressed," no machines being used, and practically all of our first houses were brick—our churches, schools, and houses—the latter usually processed by the people who used them.

Brick yards were to be seen on the rear of the College grounds, on Third Street where the houses of Harry Mills now stand, on the lower end of College Avenue, once known as Brick Yard Alley, near the river wharf, and below the cemetery.

These brick will be found in the old part of our College, the Methodist Church, the Arlington Hotel, the home of Mrs. Clara Conti, the old tenement corner of 1st and Wood Streets, the old building corner First and Union Streets, the home of the late Miss Elizabeth Morgan, the old Rothwell homestead, the house occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Saeli, Sr., the Paxton Grocery, the Muganni Building, the older part of the Peoples' Bank, the Calieffie Funeral Parlor, the home of Dr. Brickley, and the residence of Andrew Cairns, also the building in the rear of the Davis Hardware Co.

But, as the demand for brick increased larger brick ovens were built. Mr. William Carroll and his two brothers, and Mr. F. H. Martin and his two sons, were rivals and each claimed the largest daily output—about 20,000 brick per day. A story is told of a well known distiller who came to town from Pike Run to buy brick to repair his distillery. He contacted Mr. William Carroll, who emphatically said "No," and did not sell. A brother was of a different opinion and said he would furnish bricks for the gable ends of Hades if he was paid for them. As there was no demand from the latter place for brick the supposition is that Hades did not use them.

That the lower end of College Avenue was originally known as Brick Yard Alley, is proven by the deed made to the Darrochs' by H. Ellwood, a former owner, in which it is so described.

It has been said that the clay used in our brick, and found in large quantities above the Teachers College, was the best quality for the soft-mud method of brick making—the method most generally used in the United States a century ago. These brick, after being moulded, were dried in the sun and then burned in kilns. There are two kinds of brick—building and fire brick—depending upon their composition—and we made both.

But the time soon come when the little fellow could not meet the competition of the larger manufacturer and the brick yards followed the boat yard into oblivion.

OUR BOAT YARD

By Nan Hornbake

"Our town was but two years old, 1851, when William McFall, St. Clair Chrissinger and James T. Imley began the construction of boats on the river bank on the present site of the Pennsylvania Railroad depot, First street. This yard extended from just above Coal Center to about what is now known as Phillipsburg and contained four launch ways—two north toward Pittsburgh and two south toward Brownsville. In spite of competition from West Brownsville, which had two boat building industries, our yard was a success from the beginning.

"The river needed all kinds of boats—large side-wheeled passenger ones to carry both mail and passengers to Brownsville to fill the stage coaches crowding the Old Cumberland road—the National Pike to you—freight boats, later known as tow boats, to carry all kinds of commodities and later, coal, to the Pittsburgh markets.

"Our reputation for building the finest kind of river craft spread, until we were constructing boats for not only the Monongahela river, but for the Ohio, Mississippi, Missouri, and even the mighty Amazon of South America. Sears and Roebuck may claim to be the originators of ready-built houses, but California claims that distinction for River Steamers, Boats, too large to pass through our locks or even to float over our dams in flood tide, were torn down and shipped to Ohio, Mississippi and Brazil. What a change on the Monongahela River.

"Less than 10 years before, November 13, 1844, the last lock had been built on the river at Brownsville and now, steamers, instead of flat or keel boats, plied between Pittsburgh and Brownsville every day.

"In 1854 Captain Sterling and Benjamin Coursin bought the boat yard and with increased prosperity more men were added to the pay roll; sixty men were now employed, including 5 Scotchmen, who had formerly been employed in the ship yards on the River Clyde and who claimed to have built the first steam propelled ship to cross the Atlantic.

"Again the yard changed ownership, G. M. Eberman taking over the business but, it was soon to be known as Eberman, McFall and company, who were succeeded in 1859 by Joseph Lambert, Samuel Craft and George Norcross. Lambert and Norcross continued operations until 1860, when Eberman and McFall again took control to remain in that capacity until the destruction of the yard by the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1879.

"And then came the Civil War, and so many of the "yard" men answered Lincoln's call that workers had to be imported. Capt. F. A. Reader in his book of the "Fifth West Virginia Cavalry," to which many of our men belonged, reports that they were greeted at Camp Carlisle by the cry of "Boatmen."

"The war ended and the "boatmen" returned to the yard—much decimated by the killed, wounded, and missing, but the demand for boats and more boats continued. In 1852, the Pennsylvania Railroad had entered Pittsburgh and we, in our ignorance, rejoiced. The railroad brought passengers and freight to Pittsburgh where both were transferred to our boats to be disembarked at Brownsville. At the latter place where many stage coaches waited to transfer them to Baltimore or Wheeling, business flourished like a "green bay tree" and if there were a small dark cloud on the horizon, we failed to see it."

"The P. V. and C. Railroad, organized in 1870, had constructed a road as far as Monongahela by 1873, and then turned covetous eyes toward the upper reaches of the Monongahela. You know the story—or do you? The destruction of our yard and the mutilation of our Normal Campus, 1879.

The first boat built in the California Yards was believed to be the "Badger State," a craft of 127 tons, with its home port in Pittsburgh. It was built in 1852.

Other boats built in those early days were: Persia, Prairie City, Twin City, Arkansas, Chevoit, Fanny Fern, Forest Rose, Helen Mar, Henrietta, Alice, Ben Bolt, Eclipse, Genoa, James Parks, John Buck, Kate Cassell, John Trader, Oakland, Quaker City, St. Nicholas, Adelia, Montauk, Two Brothers, Chicago, City of Knoxville, Empire, Empire City, Flora, Great West, John C. Fremont, Parthrenia, Singiss, W. H. Denny, Charley Bowen, Emma Graham, Great Shot, James Wood, Melnotte, R. F. Saas, Sir William Wallace.

The last two boats to be built before the coming of the P. V. & C. Railroad were the "Montana" and "Dakota," destined for the Missouri River trade. These were big boats, 250 feet long, 48 foot beam and five and one half feet depth of hold. The "Boatmen" were working against time, as the "trackmen" were pushing their tracks nearer and ever nearer to our Marine Ways and the two large boats under construction. The men worked from daylight until it was too dark to see, and, as it was during July and August, there were long hours of light, but no one ever heard the workers complain that the proprietors of the boatyard were unfair to labor, and the phrase "time and one-half for overtime" had never been heard. The men received their regular pay per hour and were just as anxious that the boats were completed, before the arrival of the railroad, as the owners themselves.

Well, the boats were completed as the tracks reached what is now called "Coal Center," and both boats were launched the same day—one north toward Pittsburgh, and one south toward Brownsville. As we had four launchways, we could have had two more boats had we had them. But our troubles were not over—there was no water in the river to take them to Pittsburgh.

In 1879, when the tracks reached our town, our slack water navigation extended only to Brownsville and we had little reserve water at any time, and none in July and August. Old river men, though, always expected what they called a "freshet" four times a year, March, June, September and December if the river was not frozen over, so they hoped and prayed that this September freshet would come and be ample. It did, and it was.

Now you may not think it, but it takes a tremendous amount of water, flowing over a dam, to take a boat of five and one-half feet depth of hold over it without injury to its hull, and when you have sufficient water to do it, you have a current that is something with which to reckon. Well, the "Montana" and Dakota," each lashed to a tug, started to Pittsburgh, where our responsibility for them ended. The dam at No. 4 was negotiated O.K., but when Dam No. 3 was reached something happened. The "Montana" broke her lashings and started out on her own. I am told it took every tug and riverman in pool No. 3 to capture, relash her, and send her on her way rejoicing. But she went into Pittsburgh accompanied by two tugs instead of one.

From the close of the Civil War, 1865 to 1879, when the Railroad caused our boatyard to sing its "swan song," we had built 168 river steamers at a cost of approximately one million dollars; about the same number of model coal barges costing \$40,000 and sold lumber to the amount of \$20,000. These figures do not sound very impressive today, when everyone, including Amos and Andy, talk in billions, but they were considered magnificent in the 60's and 70's and would be to some of us today.

Boat races on the Monongahela, when the river was at flood stage, were not uncommon; neither was the bursting of boilers, sometimes with disastrous results. One of the most serious of these explosions was in 1881 when the boilers of the L. W. Morgan let go with all the fury that compressed steam could exert. This happened just after the boat had passed Coal Center and caused the death of the engineer, Harrison Hornbake, who was literally scalded to death. His nephew, young and agile, saved himself by jumping into the river.

So it's "Hail and Farewell" to the California Boat Yard by the few who remember it in its glory.

PORT OF PITTSBURGH

PORT OF PITTSBURGH TOPS SUEZ, PANAMA

1948—From Press Harrisburg Bureau

HARRISBURG, AUG. 30—The Port of Pittsburgh handles more freight than either the Suez or Panama canals.

The State Planning Board reports that the Pittsburgh tonnage last year was 31,590,731 tons.

This exceeds the 28,943,000 net tonnage of inbound freight for all ports of Great Britain in the war year of 1945. It exceeds the 21,708,817 gross tons for the Panama Canal and 25,064,966 through the Suez.

The Board says that of all American seaports, only New York and Philadelphia exceed the waterborne tonnage of Pittsburgh.

"Pennsylvania's great steel and iron center, in the process of importing vast amounts of raw materials and exporting to other industrial centers its unequaled production of durable goods, has become one of the major ports and trade centers of the world," the Board adds.

OUR COAL INDUSTRY

Issue of Thursday, February 14, 1867, Monongahela Republican—

SALE OF COAL WORKS—We understand that our enterprising townsmen, Craft and Lambert, have bought an interest in the Pike Run Coal Works, and arrangements are making to consolidate the merchandising and coal trading business with one of the former partners, L. W. Morgan, with the view of doing a more extensive business in both branches than heretofore. The new firm intended having their coal towed to New Orleans. We wish them success. —California Spirit.

With the destruction of our boat yards our men were forced to leave home for other yards. There was no trouble getting jobs, but the leaving of homes that they had built, was quite a disappointment. Many of us who are of the older generation, cannot see yet why the railroad insisted on going through our yards, when a little detour would have left them, and there is no doubt, even to this date, it would have been a productive source of income. We were admirably situated for a boatyard, we had access to the best lumber—oak and pine—in the world. It was rafted down to us from the upper reaches of the Monongahela.

It seemed at first as if the town were doomed, but in 1851, the same year in which we started our boat building, Solomon Sibbitt bought the hull of a small, discarded boat called the "Adrian," which had lain for some time along the river bank. He poled it to Pike Run Creek, the same creek that empties into the Monongahela, between Coal Center and California. He filled it with coal which had cropped out of the hillside, and when the creek was at flood stage, floated it down to the river and paddled it down to Cincinnati and sold it. When weighed, it contained 4,000 bushels. Small coal companies quickly sprung up

along the Monongahela and any mine that could boast an output of 1000 to 1500 bushels of coal per day was an Eldorado. Two years later, when the coal business still was just an infant, someone asked one of our little operators how much coal he put out a day. He hesitated a minute and then said, "One day we did run 1800 bushel."

SOME OF OUR EARLY COAL MINES

One of the first of our early mines was the Stoney Hill, located just across the river from California. It changed ownership frequently. There was the Scotch proprietors—who may have known mining in Scotland, but were no success here. Then came a Canadian Indian, Joseph Garrow, who fared little better than his predecessor. Mr. John Dixon tried it next but Stoney Hill still refused to bring wealth to its new owner. The last to wrestle with it was Richard Stephenson, an Englishman, but that mine was impartial—Scotch, Canadian Indian, American or English received the same treatment, and all gave up, no richer than when they started.

Just below Stoney Hill Mine was Cedar Hill, about opposite the Vesta No. 4 Tipple. It, also, had four operators before it was "worked out." Mr. L. W. Morgan was followed by Messrs. Rolison, Lynch, and Guiser.

Still farther down was the Little Alps and Snow Hill, both operated by Joseph Underwood, another Englishman, to whom the difficulties of Monongahela mining presented no problems after experiences in English mines. His mines were successful both from a production and financial standpoint. All these mines were on the Fayette side of the river, and their tipples from which the coal was dumped into the barges would look like a child's toy compared to the mechanized mammoth of Vesta No. 4.

About a mile below California Jordan Neal opened up two mines—the Coal Center and the Eclipse, and Robert Gregg operated the Globe and the Dexter, still a little farther down the river.

The Eclipse was later run by Mr. Prehsley Forsythe, who transferred his title to the Blythe Blackburn and Mimford Coal Company. This was the first of our early mines to experiment with machine mining.

Then there were two mines in what was known as American Bottoms which were later to be known as Vesta No. 1, at Allenport, and Vesta No. 2 at Roscoe, and the Caledonia near Wood Run, T. J. Wood, proprietor, one of the most prosperous in our early mining history. His store at Wood Run, operated in connection with his mine, was one of the busiest in this district.

The Champion, the property of Morgan & Dixon, located just below the Caledonia at Wood Run. Many miners of even today will remember the Pit Boss of the Champion—Barney Sloan—one of the best known men of the Grandville district. This mine, also, had its own tow boat—L. W. Morgan.

The last of those mines—the forerunner of the greatest bituminous mine in the world—was the Stone Road, owned and operated by William H. Gregg—Robin—father of John R. of the Peoples' Bank, corner of Wood and Second Streets. As we had no banks at that time, Mr. Gregg would take his pay sheet and board a "Packet" for Pittsburgh to obtain the cash to pay the employees.

But the time was past and gone for the "little fellow," and led by Honorable J. B. Findley of Monongahela, there was organized, in spite of much opposition, on October 8, 1889, The Monongahela River Consolidated Coal & Coke Company." The Consolidated included all the mines, steamboats, coal craft, docks, yards, etc., connected with the Monongahela River shipping interests of our valley. The mines operated by M.R.C.C.C.Co. were: Black Diamond, Catsburg, Coal Bluff, Cincinnati, Eclipse, Crescent, Knob Vigilant, Beaumont and Champion. Then came the merging of the Monongahela River Consolidated Coal and Coke Company and the Pittsburgh Coal Company—known as the River Combine—but later—October 1903—The Pittsburgh Coal Company secured the majority of the Monongahela stock and became the Pittsburgh Coal. At that time the farmer who sold his coal, received one hundred fifty to three hundred dollars per acre for his "black diamonds."

Washington County's coal has always been rated A-1, both for fuel and coking purposes. This in combination with ease of transportation resulted in the rapid depletion of high grade coal in the eastern part of the county. Years before the coming of the "Combines" barges were loaded and steamboats towed them to Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, and further down to New Orleans.

Use of the rivers by J & L dates back to 1864 when the small twin screw barge "Parana" was acquired by Laughlin & Company for transporting iron ore from a point a short distance down the Ohio River or from Buena Vista on the Youghiogheny River. Limestone was also moved from a quarry 30 miles up the Monongahela. But it was not until the coal properties purchased by Jones & Laughlines Ltd. along the Monongahela River were consolidated in the 90's under the name of the Vesta Coal Company of which Henry A. Laughlin was president, that real progress was made in river transportation which placed Jones & Laughlin first in producing and transporting in barges the coal consumed in its own furnaces and mills.

Canalization of the Monongahela had been begun in 1836 by the Monongahela Navigation Co. with construction of a system of dams and locks. Tolls were charged for boats and barges passing through. This transportation facility continued to operate as a private enterprise until purchased by the U. S. Government in 1897, converted into a public facility, freed of toll charges and improved. In 1891 the Steamer Joseph W. Gould was purchased, overhauled and renamed the "Titan," while 1892 marked the beginning of the Vesta Coal Company's river activities at its own coal properties.

Today Jones & Laughlin has 12 towboats, two recently having been purchased from the United States Maritime Commission and renamed the H. E. Lewis and the W. J. Creighton. These two oil-fired boats, used in the steel delivery service, are in sharp contrast to the small and low-powered Parana of 1864. Likewise, the small wooden barges of the 90's are in sharp contrast with the big steel barges in the J & L fleet today. Corrosion and abrasion resisting J & L Otiscoloy and Jalloy steels are used in them to insure long service life.

The Vesta Coal Company was incorporated under the laws of Pennsylvania, on December 22, 1891, for the purpose as set forth in its application for Charter, of "Mining, Producing, Transporting and Selling Coal and Its Products."

The coal properties acquired consisted of virgin coal lands with the exception of the developed coal lands, plant and equipment of the Globe Coal Company, purchased in November 1892. The coal acquired from the Glode Coal Company, however, was mined out in 1910, and the plant dismantled.

The coal property was acquired in numerous parcels, but the principal purchases were as follows:

Date	Purchased from	Acreage
Feb. 1892	Henry A. Laughlin	971
Mar. 1900	Henry A. Laughlin	3,741
Jun. 1905	J. V. Thompson	9,765
Dec. 1906	Pittsburgh-Buffalo Company	4,079
Aug. 1909	Pittsburgh-Buffalo Company	5,861
Total		24,417

Originally all the issued shares of stock of The Vesta Coal Company were owned by Jones & Laughlins, Limited, Laughlin and Company, Limited, and by various individuals directly associated with either one or both of said Limited partnerships.

Jones & Laughlins, Limited, in 1900 acquired the assets of Laughlin & Company, Limited, including all shares of The Vesta Coal Company owned by it, and on or about the same date purchased from said individuals all stock they held in The Vesta Coal Company. By these transacitons, all the issued shares of stock of the Vesta Coal Company were acquired by J & L. Then, in 1941, the Corporation absorbed the Vesta Coal Company and also the Shannopin Coal Company, established in 1921 to operate the mine at Bobtown, Pa., which was opened in 1927. All coal properties and river transport are now operated as the Vesta-Shannopin Coal Division. Shannopin mine was named for an Indian chieftain.

Vesta Mine No. 1 at Allenport, Washington County, Pa., opened 1892 and was operated continuously until the year 1917, at which time the original acreage of coal was exhausted. However, during the year 1917, the Company purchased 150 acres adjoining the original acreage. This acreage was immediately developed and coal was produced from the same from 1917 to January 17, 1924, when the mine was closed and all operations abandoned.

Vesta Mine No. 2, located at a point near Lucyville, now known as Roscoe Station on the P. V. & C. Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad was opened and coal produced there from the year 1892. Operations were conducted continuously until the exhaustion of coal. All mining operations were discontinued at this mine in September 1915.

Vesta Mine No. 3 was located at Coal Centre, Pa. Operations were begun at this mine in 1892. The entire coal acreage of this mine was exhausted in December 1918.

Vesta Mine No. 4 is located in the Borough of California, Pa. This mine was opened and the first coal shipped therefrom in July 1903. Since that date, this mine has operated continuosuly.

Vesta Mine No. 5 is located at Vestaburg, Pa. In 1905, the Company began the development of this mine. The mine is still in operation.

Vesta Mine No. 6 is located at Denbo, Pa. The development of this mine was begun in 1915, and the first coal dumped in January 1917. Production ceased at this mine on May 31, 1947.

Vesta Mine No. 7 was located at West Brownsville, Pa. In 1918, it was decided to open up this acreage. Coal was first dumped in July 1918. The mine was closed in 1923.

Shannopin Mine, located at Bobtown, Pa., was acquired in 1921, opened in 1927 and operated continuously since that date.

Our miners have always been expert workmen, as they have been all over the United States; but owing to better natural formations we produce more coal per man in the northern fields than the southern states. Below is the production per man here and abroad.

Mine	Tons per man per day
Ohio (U.S.A.)	10.28
England	2.30
France	2.06
Holland	1.54
Poland	1.33
Belgium	1.22
Germany	1.16
Australia	1.03
India	0.33
Japan	0.24

Human nature being what it is, it would be foolish to say that the relations between management and labor, have always been that of one big happy family. We have witnessed every phase of prosperity and poverty; peace and war, and work and strikes. The State Police have paid more than one visit to our town, and labor orators have sojourned with us. Some years ago when college students from New York City were sent to our college to be taught signaling for army use, one over-plump young lady asked to be shown the women who worked in the mines. She insisted that they were here for they had been told so before they came to California, and she wanted very much to see them. Another one said she was "so surprised, really the town was very nice—her mother had not wanted her to come to a coal town—it would be no better than the slum districts of New York." That we are as far from a slum as prosperity, industry, intelligence and education can make any locality, has been proven by our educational growth.

Our Minor Judiciary

The personnel of California's Minor Judiciary has always been above the average in legal knowledge and procedure. From Job Johnson, its first officer, to our present Justices, they have been well versed and honorable in their profession. There were several reasons for their attitude in this matter, but perhaps the greatest influence for efficiency was in the person of a Justice in Greenfield—Coal Center—Daniel O'Conner Lambert. Squire Lambert was an inspiration and a challenge to every young Justice in the vicinity. Any Justice, or any member of the County Court who found himself opposite Squire Lambert on a case, knew at its conclusion that he had been in a fight, and more than that, felt the sharp sting of defeat.

The story is told of one California Justice, whose decision on a case involving the costs collected by a Constable, had been reversed by the County Court. The case went to the Superior Court of the state. Whose decision was upheld—our Justice's Court or the County Court? Yes, you're right, our Justice's Court of California.

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The following are some of the men who have served as Justices for the Borough of California:

Job Johnson	1854-1864—two terms
E. M. Melchi	1864-1874—two terms
I. C. Dawson	1874-1883
J. K. Billingsley	April 6 to July 16, 1883—resigned
J. I. McKenna	1883-1895
J. J. Fitzpatrick	1887-1899
Joseph Hornbake	1899-1944
Charles McCain	1896-1924
George Woods	1924-1936
Byron Winfield	1944—resigned
James McCain	1944-
R. E. Booker	1945-

As California is entitled to two Justices, supposedly of opposite parties, the terms of the above often overlapped. The shortest term served by any Squire was that of Capt. J. K. Billingsley—three months and ten days; the longest tenure was that of Justice Hornbake, who served continuously from May 1, 1899, to July 10, 1944.

Mr. Hornbake held the office of Justice of the Peace in California, Pa., for 45 years. From the time he assumed his duties on May 1, 1899, succeeding John Fitzpatrick, he occupied the same office. He lived in the same house where he was born 78 years ago. In his office were complete docket records from the days of Job Johnson, the borough's first Justice of the Peace, who served two terms, from 1854 to 1864.

Next in point of service was Charles McCain, who served four terms, but they were not continuous.

CALIFORNIA'S BURGESSES

From the year 1854, when we organized our borough government, the burgess' office has been considered the most important one of California. At that time the office changed hands every year—now our chief officer remains in office for a term of four years.

Our first burgess, 1854, was Solomon Sibbit, he was in partnership with L. W. Morgan, our first merchant, the two operating a store in the Mugnanni Building. Mr. Sibbit later moved to Greenfield and was one of its first citizens.

Mr. Sibbit was followed in 1855 by Job Johnson, the first citizen of California, attorney and surveyor.

Our third burgess, 1856, was Mr. George Eberman, who was later to become, with Mr. William McFall, our chief operator of the California Boat Yard.

Following Mr. Eberman came our fourth burgess, 1857, Mr. A. J. Harris, who was one of our best boat builders. Anyone who knows the Harris family would expect them to be interested in wood and its manufacture.

From the conclusion of Mr. Harris' term of office, 1858 until 1890, no records can be found of the office or who was its chief officer. Men have found the tomb of King Tut, buried 3000 years ago, but we defy them to find the records of the burgess' office of 1858-1890, a matter of 32 years.

In 1890 J. I. McKenna, a Civil War Veteran, was elected burgess and served two terms. An ordinance signed by Squire McKenna has been found. It bears the date of 1890. His term of office expired 1898.

The next incumbent served one year, his name was E. G. Eaglen. Mr. Eaglen was, also, a Civil War Veteran, as I found this data in the G.A.R. records: Born in Morgantown, W. Va., Merchant, Enlisted in Co. C, 14th W. Va. Infantry, Aug. 14, 1862, discharged Jan. 27, 1865. Mr. Eaglen served 1898-1899.

Charles McCain was our next burgess. He also was a veteran of the Civil War. His term terminated in 1904.

In 1904 R. Kirk Richardson was elected California's burgess, but after serving but half his term, resigned in 1906. Louis D. Piper then accepted the election to the office, serving until 1910.

W. M. Burley was our next burgess. He, also, at the conclusion of two years, thought he had had enough and resigned. Robert L. McCluckie completed the unexpired term of W. M. Burley, but refused to enter the race for re-election.

William H. Mahaney was elected in 1914 and served the burgess office two terms—1922. Mr. Hahaney was a Civil War Veteran, a member of Company C. 85th Vol., having enlisted Sept. 18, 1861, and discharged Nov. 22, 1864. Mr. Mahaney was to be our last veteran of the Union Forces to be burgess of California.

Harry Wilson, a veteran employee of the Vesta Coal Office, was the next burgess and completed his full term in 1926. The following officers all served one term: 1926-1930, E. M. Copenhaver; 1930-1934, M. P. Bumbara; 1934-1938, J. B. Myers.

Walter Duff served two terms, 1938-1946. Frank S. Clapperton was elected to the office in 1946 and is the present incumbent.

1854—Solomon Sibbit	1869—S. B. Paxton
1855—Job Johnson	1870—Sol Fry
1856—William Eberman	1871—E. M. Melchi
1857—A. J. Harris	1872—E. M. Melchi
1858—A. J. Harris	1873—Jonathan DeHaven
1859—Louis Baker	1874—A. J. Harris
1860—A. J. Harris	1875—E. M. Melchi
1861—A. J. Harris	1876—E. M. Melchi
1862—A. J. Harris	1877—E. O. Phillips
1863—Edward Melchi	1878—J. B. Montgomery
1864—David Shellenberger	1879—W. G. Gardner
1865—Samuel Sickman	(Oct. 1879—J. B. Vandyke)
1866—J. M. Phillips	1880—J. B. Vandyke
1867—Job Johnson	1881—E. M. Melchi
1868—E. M. Melchi	

CALIFORNIA BOROUGH COUNCILS

- 1854—Wm. Eberman, J. P. Ailes, St. Clair Chrisinger, L. W. Morgan, Wm. Carrol. (Clerk—Samuel S. Rothwell)
- 1855—J. P. Ailes, L. W. Morgan, Abner Jackson, H. Miller, S. S. Rothwell. (Clerk—Samuel S. Rothwell)
- 1856—Sol Sibbitt, Thomas Wells, J. Silas Vanhorn, Joseph Paxton, James O. Lewellyn. (Clerk—Samuel S. Rothwell)
- 1857—Thomas Wells, Joseph Paxton, James Underwood, Amos Powell, Wm. Eberman. (Clerk—Samuel S. Rothwell)
- 1858—James Underwood, Joseph Woodfil, George W. Harris, St. Clair Chrisinger, David Thomas. (Clerk—S. S. Rothwell)
- 1859—Joseph Norcroff, Samuel Davis, Jonathan Dehaven, William McFall, John Reed. (Clerk—James Billingsley)
- 1860—Edward Riggs, Wm. J. Harris, G. W. Underwood, Jonathan Dehaven, A. A. Devore. (Secretary—A. A. Devore)
- 1861—Stephen Smith, Jackson Crow, J. H. Ball, J. W. Phillips, A. A. Devore. (Secretary—A. A. Devore)
- 1862—Wm. McFall, Joseph Lambert, John G. Dowler, E. W. Harris, Jonathan Dehaven. (Clerk E. W. Barris)
- 1863—L. W. Morgan, Joseph A. Lambert, Job Johnson, Steele Sample, E. W. Barris. (Clerk—Job Johnson)
- 1864—Edward Riggs, Stephen Smith, Job Johnson, Wm. McFall, James Underwood. (Secretary—Job Johnson)
- 1865—George H. Harris, Wm. McFall, D. Shallenberger, J. C. Momyer, G. M. Eberman. (Secretary—G. M. Eberman)
- 1866—Joseph Pyle, J. S. Wilkins, D. H. Jacobs, S. W. Craft, J. G. Huggins. (Secretary—J. G. Huggins)
- 1867—John H. Veatch, James L. Long, W. W. Eavenson, J. N. Powell, Samuel Sickman. (Secretary—J. N. Powell)
- 1868—Samuel B. Paxton, Luke P. Beazell, John R. Dunlap, George G. Hertzog, Jonathan Dehaven. (Secretary—G. G. Hertzog)
- 1869—Joseph S. Wilkins, Luke P. Beazell, John R. Dunlap, George G. Hertzog, Jonathan Dehaven. (Secretary—G. G. Hertzog)

- 1870—Joseph Paxton, Moses Billingsley, John Lopp, Jonathan Dehaven, James Herron. (Secretary—James Herron)
- 1871—A. P. Smith, G. W. Harris, Joseph Wadsworth, S. R. Alter, John Wells. (Secretary—S. R. Alter)
- 1872—Edward Riggs, Joseph Wadsworth, Alexander B. Duvall, Isiah Hornback, James Long, James McDonough. (Secretary—James McDonough)
- 1873—Samuel W. Craft, W. D. Veatch, Edward Riggs, H. C. Hank, L. P. Beazell. (Secretary—L. P. Beazell)
- 1874—Wm. McFall, A. J. Hertzog, John R. Powell, Edward Riggs, Thomas Johnson, A. B. Devall. (Secretary—A. J. Hertzog)
- 1875—S. B. Paxton, James K. Ward, J. N. Veatch, J. B. Shallenberger, J. A. Wadsworth, I. F. Dawson. (Secretary—L. P. Fry). J. N. Veatch resigned April 2, 1875, and James O. Lewellyn elected to fill vacancy for 1875. May 5, 1875, I. F. Dawson resigned and S. M. Geho elected to fill vacancy for 1875. Jan. 5, 1876, D. H. Lancaster elected to fill vacancy of S. B. Paxton, resigned.
- 1876—J. B. Shallenberger, S. M. Geho, J. A. Wadsworth, J. K. Ward, J. O. Lewellyn, L. P. Beazell. (Secretary—L. P. Fry)
- 1877—James O. Lewellyn, J. A. Wadsworth, J. K. Ward, S. M. Geho, Samuel Howe, John Harrison. (Secretary—L. P. Fry)
- 1878—J. A. Wadsworth, James O. Lewellyn, S. M. Geho, Samuel Howe, John Harrison, William Mehaffey. (Secretary—L. P. Fry)
- 1879—J. A. Wadsworth, James O. Lewellyn, S. M. Geho, John Harrison, William Mehaffey, W. N. Baker. (Secretary—L. P. Fry)
- 1880—A. P. Smith, E. O. Phillips, William Howe, Isaac Jackman, Joseph Wadsworth, John Harrison. (Secretary—L. P. Fry)
- 1881—G. G. Hertzog, J. A. Wadsworth, J. B. Montgomery, J. A. Letherman, I. J. Hornbake. (Secretary—O. O. Hornbake)
- 1882—S. W. Craft, L. P. Beazell, W. D. Veatch, J. A. Letherman, J. B. Smith, G. G. Hertzog. (Secretary—O. O. Hornbake)
- 1883—G. G. Hertzog, J. B. Smith, J. A. Letherman, W. D. Veatch, L. P. Beazell. (Secretary—O. O. Hornbake)
- 1884—L. T. Claybaugh, N. S. Veatch, J. B. Melchi, E. S. Marshall, F. R. Hall. (Secretary—F. R. Hall)
- 1885—L. T. Claybaugh, N. S. Veatch, F. R. Hall, J. A. Letherman, J. F. Eberman. (Secretary—J. F. Eberman)
- 1886—D. H. Jacobs, F. R. Hall, J. A. Letherman, John Beazell, O. O. Hornbake, George Gillingham. (Secretary—O. O. Hornbake)

OUR POST OFFICE

For the information contained herein on our postal history, I wish to thank Dr. H. D. Wilkins, who received it from the Honorable Thomas E. Morgan, member of the House of Representatives from the 24th District.

1st Postmaster: 1864-1869

ABRAHAM SOLOMON FRY—Appointed May 28, 1864, by the Lincoln administration. This office was in the corner room of what is now the Arlington Hotel.

2nd Postmaster: 1869-1870

LEWIS W. MORGAN—Received his appointment from the Grant administration March 17, 1869. The office was in Mr. Morgan's store in the corner room of the Muganne building. Mr. Morgan accepted the office in order to keep it here—no one wanted the position.

3rd Postmaster: 1870-1871

DAVID H. LANCASTER—Appointed April 5, 1870 by the Grant administration, the office still in the Morgan Store.

4th Postmaster: 1871-1879

ISAAC T. DAWSON—Appointed May 22, 1871 by Grant's administration. Mr. Dawson was a Civil War Veteran, and had the office in a room of his house, now 131 Union Street. It was during Mr. Dawson's incumbency that the name of the office was changed to Sagamore—June 15, 1874—but was changed to California February 23, 1875.

5th Postmaster: 1879-1885

JOSEPH W. SMITH—Appointed by the Hays' administration January 24, 1879. The office was in the Eberman Drug Store, corner of Second and Union Streets, now used as a service station. Mr. Smith, because of ill health, resigned and moved to the State of California, and John S. Eberman was appointed January 13, 1882, by the Arthur administration to finish Mr. Smith's term.

7th Postmaster: 1885-1889

CHARLES MCCAIN—Another Civil War Veteran, received his appointment from the Cleveland administration, October 26, 1885. This office was located at the corner of Third and Wood Streets, in the room now occupied by Abramson's Grocery Store

8th Postmaster: 1889-1893

JOHN B. SHALLENBERGER—Appointed April 27, 1889, from the Harrison administration. Mr. Shallenberger was also a Civil War Veteran. This office was on Wood Street in a room now occupied by the Clover Farm Store. It was during this administration that our receipts from the office reached the one thousand dollar mark and we became a Presidential office—1892.

9th Postmaster: 1893-1897

L. C. POWELL—Appointed September 22 by Cleveland's second administration, the office being in the room now used by the Clover Farm Store, Wood Street.

10th Postmaster: 1897-1902

J. I. MCKENNA, the last Civil War Veteran to be California's postmaster, was appointed by William McKinley September 14, 1897. The office was located in the room now occupied by Dr. Owens.

11th Postmaster: 1902-1911

N. K. WILEY, our next postmaster, was appointed by Theodore Roosevelt and the office was moved into the building now used by the Nehi Shoe Store. Mr. Wiley served two terms, with an extra year added because of political friction.

12th Postmaster: 1911-1915

W. W. LATTA, after waiting two years, received his appointment from President Taft. Location—same as the former—in fact the Third Street address remained the site of the Post Office until 1938. It was during Mr. Latta's tenure of office that Parcel Post service and Postal Savings service was established.

13th Postmaster: 1915-1923

J. E. COATSWORTH served two terms as the appointee of Woodrow Wilson. Mr. Coatsworth received his appointment March 3, 1915.

14th Postmaster: 1923-1936

WILLIAM LATTA, a former postmaster—1911-1915—was again appointed to that office by President Coolidge, October 1, 1923. It was during his tenure in 1923—that village delivery was established, and a year later—1924—that we received city delivery. Mr. Latta served, also, through the Hoover administration, and one year longer than his commission called for.

15th Postmaster: 1936-1947

HERSHEL C. COWEN, appointed February 15, 1936, served through the first, second, and three years of the third terms of F. D. R. During the first year of his postmastership—1936—the entire receipts of our office was \$200,000. Two years later—1938—the new Federal Building—corner of Second Street and Temperance Alley—was dedicated and there our post office will be located permanently. This same year city delivery service was extended to East Pike Run Township.

17th Postmaster: 1947-

E. W. SULEK, appointed February 28, 1947, and is still serving as chief of our mail service.

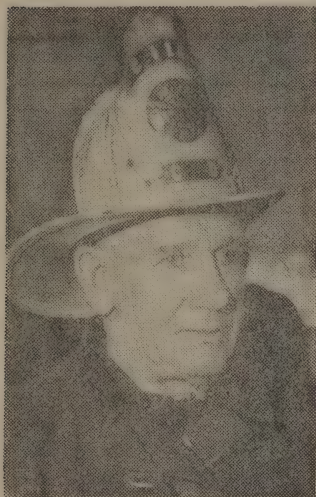
From January 1 to December 31, 1948, our gross receipts were \$505,672.55.

Broken down:

Postal Receipts	\$ 21,523.96
Money Order Receipts	302,830.34
Saving Bond Receipts	23,381.25
Postal Savings Receipts	157,937.00

OUR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

This organization, "our help in ages past, our hope for years to come," was born in December, 1907, and had its home in the old Borough Building at 321 Fourth Street, one block from its present quarters. Its equipment consisted of one hand-drawn hose cart and 1,200 feet of hose. In 1909 the company moved



FRED G. LATT
Fire Chief

into a frame building, donated by the late R. B. Drum, General Superintendent of the Vesta Coal Company, corner of Wood and First Streets. Mr. Drum also gave them some new equipment — a whistle, nozzle, a hose cart, and coats and boots.

Our municipal building was completed in 1914, and our fire company moved into its new quarters in that structure, where it has remained ever since. Its first president and treasurer was the late James R. Hill, the secretary was Dr. A. B. Linhart, and H. L. Lamb and "Barney" Latta were organization members. That same year the company bought its first motor-powered engine, a two-cylinder chemical truck, costing \$1,300, dignified by the name of "Peanut Roaster."

In 1924 California had its most disastrous fire— a \$50,000 blaze that destroyed an entire business block adjoining the First National Bank. The volunteer company struck while the wreckage was still

hot and in ten days had collected \$12,500.00. In September, 1924, the company bought the "Wildcat," an American La France engine with an output of 750 gallons of water per minute, and California's fire insurance rates dropped approximately 25%. At that time the company organized a first-aid corps under the supervision of O. O. Roberts, the first-aid man of the Vesta Coal. Of course, all the time "Barney" Latta was chief of our fire department, and until his retirement in 1937, was its chief in every sense of the word.

In 1933 the first Fire Service Extension School was held at the California State Teachers College under the Southwestern Pennsylvania Fire Chiefs Association, and largely because of the encouragement of Chief Latta. This has become an annual affair and is one of the town's most spectacular events.

Today our fire-fighting equipment is of the newest and the best, and under the management of the following officers California can feel sure that our fire hazards are as safely looked after as is humanly possible.

President	James Abercrombie
Chief	Ralph Charleton
1st Assistant	Paul Dickson
2nd Assistant	Alex Hotz
1st Lieutenant	Laurence Wanright
2nd Lieutenant	Ardie Zanardelli
Trustees	Harold Gregory, David McFann, Jupe Zelnick
Secretary	Neil Hartford
Treasurer	Sandy Roberston

Our Religious Growth

OUR RELIGIOUS GROWTH

CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN CALIFORNIA HAD START IN 1858;
IS ORGANIZED FORMALLY THE FOLLOWING YEAR

History of the Christian Church in California dates back to 1858, when Edward Riggs came to California. Five members of his household were disciples of Christ and they found two others, David Thomas and his wife, of like faith.

Judson D. Benedict of Tonawand, N. Y., was invited to hold a series of meetings in California and he came March 24, 1859, to preach at a series of meetings in the old school house.

On March 24, 1859, several persons having been immersed upon public confession of their faith, the Christian Church was organized at the home of Edward Riggs on Second Street. That day 22 persons associated themselves with the church. They were: Edward Riggs, Hester Riggs, Jesse E. Riggs, Hattie N. Riggs, Amanda Riggs, Sarah J. Riggs, David Thomas, Harriet Thomas, Joseph Pyle, Albena Pyle, Emeline Pyle, Phebe Margaret Pyle, A. A. Devore, James Marshall, Josiah W. Phillips, Susan Phillips, Sarah Smith, Laura E. Smith, Mary Miller, Rebecca Miller, Henry Hornbake, and Sidney J. Rothwell. Of these Edward Riggs, David Thomas and A. A. Devore were appointed elders. Mr. Riggs moved soon after to Fifth Street where services were held at his home regularly for seven years.

On January 7, 1866, the church began to meet regularly in the old school house, although in 1863 the first steps were taken toward erection of a church building. Joseph Pyles, David Shallenberger and Albert Wilson were named trustees to take charge of all church property.

On January 4, 1866, the trustees were instructed to purchase a lot known as the Wilkins lot for \$175. On May 26 of the same year a building committee, composed of Josiah W. Phillips, Edward Riggs, Joseph Pyle and David Shallenberger, was appointed. They proceeded to obtain funds but did not build until 1870. The building was completed in 1871. The church was formally dedicated and opened February 15, 1871, when John F. Rowe preached and began a series of meetings.

Following the series of meetings by Bro. John F. Rowe other ministers came to hold special services, among whom were Bro. J. D. Benedict, Bro. M. L. Streator, Bro. Pratt and Bro. Benjamin Franklin.

At the meeting in April, 1873, which lasted over four Lord's Days with Bro. Benjamin Franklin as preacher, nineteen were added to the church.

Through the following years a number of able speakers and evangelists gave of their time and talent. Much was done in the sowing of the good seed of the Kingdom and in building up and strengthening of the brethren.

Bro. A. Plinkett of Crawfordsville, Ind., Bro. R. H. Singer and Bro. James Darsie were also able men among the early ministers of the brotherhood who did much in receiving new members in the church; increasing the roll of memberships and adding much help in spiritual guidance.

In July, 1890, Bro. Frank Talmage conducted a meeting continuing four weeks with forty-four added to the church. During this meeting by a vote of the church it was resolved to purchase an organ for the use of the congregation—this was done. In October, 1890, Bro. G. J. Massey was employed as pastor, under whose leadership many were added to the church.

The semi-annual convention of the District of Western Pennsylvania for missionary work was held in the California church on April 14 and 15, 1891. Preachers at this convention were Brothers Thayer, Richardson, Lane, L. P. Streator, Muckley, Massey, O. H. Phillips, Pendleton, Frazier, Grier, Stewart, Cutler, and Springer. Others from nearby churches were present. Each session of the convention was interesting, pleasant and instructive. The good Spirit appeared to "reign and rule" throughout the convention.

Bro. O. G. Hertzog of Hiram College, brother of Prof. G. G. Hertzog, one of the elders from the very beginning of the church, held a meeting in March, 1893. The preaching was above the average—each discourse was full of Bible teaching, and was spoken in love, also with energy and power. Bro. Hertzog proved to be "a workman that needeth not to be ashamed." The brethren were encouraged and strengthened.

Bro. W. D. Cunningham served the church from Dec., 1893, until March, 1894. During this ministry and with the assistance of State Evangelist Bro. J. C. Stivers, one hundred and one were brought into the fold. Bro. Cunningham was released as pastor of the California church to go as a missionary to Tokyo, Japan. When almost ready to leave U. S. for Japan Bro. Cunningham's health was broken and he was detained until able to go a few years later. He and his wife entered the mission field about 1904.

Forty-two years were served in Tokyo. Sixteen churches were built in that time—the field is known as the Cunningham Mission. Bro. Cunningham passed away a few years ago. His wife, Sister Emily B. Cunningham, has gone back now since being home on furlough since the war.

All the mission buildings were destroyed except Fourth Church. Quoting Sister Cunningham: "Beginning at Tokyo, we expect to carry the gospel as quickly as possible into all Japan, Korea and Manchuria. Soul winning, training native evangelists, re-establishing New Testament Churches, and establishing new ones and kindergarten work, heads the list of plans and hopes for the future." We feel exceptionally proud that we can send out such wonderful folk for this work of Christ in a foreign land.

In November, 1894, the church worked under the pastorate of W. W. Winbigler. November 20, 1895, a Missionary Institute was held in the church. Addresses by Bros. Hanna, our missionary to the Philippine Islands, Craig, Frye and Bullard.

L. C. Howe of Edinburg, Pa., preached and held special meetings during 1896. Others serving the church in following years were: W. N. Arnold, J. L. Streator, C. L. Morrison, J. F. Allen and H. L. Atkinson.

The church was repaired and redecorated during the pastorate of H. L. Atkinson, 1904-1905. Third of a century celebration with Pres. T. E. Cramblett of Bethany College, speaker. All old friends from far and near were invited. The morning address by Pres. Cramblett "Our Heritage," evening "The Great Victory."

Bro. G. S. Bennett was pastor during 1910 and 1911. Bro. Arthur T. Cox of Elm Grove, W. Va., also held meetings.

July 30, 1916, was a day long to be remembered, for it was the day of our re-dedication of our house of worship.

Near the close of the last year the congregation took action authorizing the enlargement and improvement of the church building, by raising the building and making a basement story ten feet. This was for the accommodation of the Bible School, also a robing room to be used for class work, corresponding to the one already built. A stairway from the sanctuary to the basement, also one from outside. The putting in of a heating plant, baptistry, gas and electric lights, also new windows were completed.

The work had gone forward to completion and now on the day named above Bro. Geo. L. Snively of Lewistown, Ill., was present to provide for the payment of the debt and to dedicate the house. Bro. Robert A. Honn, also of Illinois, gave valuable help in the dedication service. Elders and Deacons at time of re-dedication were: Brothers John Campbell, Wm. Ellsworth, G. G. Hertzog, Frank B. Rossell, J. M. Crispin, Frank Campbell, Wm. Hassen, John Allen and Robt. McCollum, Isaac Buttermore, Harvey Geho, A. K. Shaffer and John W. Neasom. Deaconesses: Mrs. Myrtle Hiener, Mrs. Jesse Lewellen, Mrs. Henry Kennedy, Mrs. Harriett Richardson, and Mrs. John Neasom. Trustees: W. S. Hertzog, G. G. Hertzog. Treasurer, J. D. Hornbake.

So throughout the years the church increased in membership, listing 300 members. For several years the church was without a regular minister, having different men coming for special meetings—the church also was supplied with student ministers from Bethany College.

During the pastorate of Bro. Thos. Wood the church at California entertained the State Convention.

Bro. W. D. Barber served the church for four years, also Bro. M. S. Spear four years. Our present minister, Bro. George D. James, came September 17, 1948. Bro. James is a very young minister but is leading the church in a fine way. Mrs. Earl Killius is our very courageous Sunday School superintendent.

A pipe organ has been installed, a gift from the Baptist Church of Monongahela, Pa. The church in general is being repaired. A new roof to be put on, a belfry to be built, rewiring for organ and extra lighting, and redecorating of walls of the sanctuary.

Our church has lost members, several families moving away, some of our most faithful ones have "passed on," some have taken membership in sister churches. With God's help we strive to work on to build and restore that which was lost. "We can do all things through Jesus Christ our Lord who strengthens us."

HISTORY OF CALIFORNIA METHODIST CHURCH

The California Methodist Church had its beginning in March, 1859, Previous to this time local Methodists worshipped at the Coal Center Methodist Church, then known as Greenfield. The first services of the new church were held in the old school building at the corner of Liberty Street and Fifth Avenue. At that time there was some discussion concerning the erection of a new church which would serve both California and Coal Center; such was planned for a site near the present Vesta tipple. This failed to advance any further than the planning stage, and so by July 11, 1859, the sum of \$1000 was reported as subscribed for a church building at the present location in California. This building was dedicated on Oct. 7, 1860. To the church was given the name Kier's Chapel because the largest single contribution was made by Samuel Kier. Legally the church continues to be known by this name.

A Sunday School was established shortly after the dedication of the new building. Previous to this there was no denominational Sunday School, a union Sunday School, however, had been meeting in the old school building before 1860. L. W. Morgan was the first regular superintendent of the Methodist Sunday School.

In the local congregation's formative years Greenfield, Mt. Tabor, Clover Hill, and California Methodist churches seem to have formed a circuit. It was in 1884 that the local church was first served by its own minister. Apparently it was G. W. Granage who first served the church in 1859 in a ministerial capacity. He was succeeded by the following: William McCracken (1860-62), J. J. Hays (1862-64), D. B. Campbell (1864-65), T. S. Hodgson (1865-66), M. B. Pugh (1866-68, with the second term completed by Abner Jackson), D. A. Pierce (1868-70), J. G. Gogley (1870-72), William Johnson (1872-75), O. S. Baketel (1875-76, with term completed by J. Hollingshead), W. F. Lauck (1876-79), J. M. Swan (1879-82), W. D. Slease (1882-84), J. E. Wright (1884-87), J. B. Taylor (1887-90), W. H. Camp (1890-91, with term completed by T. B. Noss), C. W. Miller (1891-94), G. D. Crissman (1894-98), J. F. Murray (1898-1902), H. N. Cameron (1902-06, with first term begun by J. B. Starkey), J. R. Fretts (1906-07), S. M. Mackey (1907-09), A. W. Renton (1909-16), R. M. Fowles (1916-17), W. C. Weaver (1917-22), G. W. Pender (1922-24), C. H. Beall (1924-25), F. L. Teets (1925-29), H. A. Price (1929-31), T. G. Hicks (1931-36), W. F. Seitter (1936-39), R. W. Faus (1939-42), T. G. Hicks (1942-44), K. P. Rutter (1944-).

By 1862 the membership of the church had grown to 246. In 1876 the membership was 365. The peak membership was probably reached in the pastorate of A. W. Renton when the membership was listed at 753. This was during the Hall evangelistic campaign. It is recorded that on the second Sunday of May, 1914, 181 persons were received into the church as a result of this evangelistic endeavor. At the end of 1948 the membership was officially listed as 508.

In 1893 the church parsonage was constructed; this was modernized and enlarged in 1931. The pipe organ was installed in the church in 1905, half of the expense was met by the Carnegie Foundation. Much of the original church structure is still in use; extensive improvements and additions were made, however, in the years just previous to the turn of the century, in 1940, and in 1945. In 1913 the property next to the church was acquired; in 1947 the buildings there were removed in preparation for the construction of a Sunday School addition this year.

Through the passing years many groups have been organized within the church. Some of these are the following: Woman's Christian Temperance Union, Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Ladies' Aid, Epworth League, Junior Epworth League, Lyceum, Scout Troops, Youth Fellowship, Woman's Home Missionary Society, Adult Fellowship, and Woman's Society of Christian Service. The church has always made it a practice to emphasize its music with the result that its choirs have been favorably received. Some of its music directors, such as Samuel Craft, E. E. Halstead, C. S. Cornell, and William Laight, have served for long periods of time. The present director of music is Mrs. Warren Boydston. Many years of service have been rendered by such organists as Mrs. A. B. Ward and Mrs. E. G. Forbes, the present organist.

Until 1939 the church was officially known as a Methodist Episcopal Church; following the unification of the various branches of Methodism in that year the church became known as simply a Methodist Church. At the present the church is a very stable institution and looks with confidence toward a future of accomplishment and service. The officers are the following: Trustees—E. R. Baker, D. G. Button, J. E. Caleffie, E. H. Copenhaver, I. C. Keller, A. B. Linhart, C. F. Rolison, W. E. Sproul, P. N. Walker; Stewards—R. M. Holman, Dorothy Lowman, E. E. Halstead, Mrs. Kathryn Coatsworth, Thomas Griffin, A. R. Elmer, Harmon Emmer, Mrs. J. W. Farquhar, E. G. Forbes, Mrs. A. J. Frazier, Mrs. J. L. Griffin, G. E. Harding, Harry Humphries, Lowman Latta, Jr., P. W. Liggett, Mrs. J. P. McCain, W. S. Piper, Arthur Pollock, Gladys Riggs, Virginia Sacco, P. W. Thomas, Louise Ward, Richard Wilson, Emma Sacco, Harry Monroe, M. G. Campbell, J. F. Cornell; President of Woman's Society, Mrs. Margaret Bauer; Sunday School Superintendent, W. H. First; President of Youth Fellowship, John Watkins; President of Adult Fellowship, J. B. Watkins; Treasurer, R. M. Holman; Secretary, Dorothy Lowman.

THE COAL CENTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In the beginning of the first Sessional Record Book of the Greenfield Cumberland Presbyterian Church were written these words: "Whereas, God in his gracious providence has blessed the ministerial labors of Cumberland Presbyterian Missionaries in the town of Greenfield, Washington County, Pennsylvania, so as to make them the humble means of winning souls to Christ, and as they have expressed a wish, that a Cumberland Presbyterian Church should be organized, we think it would be for the honor of God, and the prosperity of the kingdom of Christ to organize such a church. Therefore, on the 28th day of March, 1836, Rev. Samuel Sparks, of Pennsylvania Presbytery, of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, proceeded to organize it, Society in Greenfield, Washington County, Pennsylvania, to be called the Greenfield congregation of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church."

This organization was effected in the old distillery at the lower end of town, where the Union Sunday School had been meeting, and where the revival services were held. The church began its work under the leadership of Rev. John Carey, pastor, and with Andrew Gregg, Joshua Waggoner and John Shepherd as elders, all elected in 1836. The first trustees, John Shepherd, Johnson Moore, David Troy and Jas. Thornburg, were not elected until the following year, 1837.

In the course of time, a lot was purchased on old Railroad Street and a church building was planned and erected on this lot. The building was built of brick. It was completed and ready for dedication in October, 1856. All things were carefully and well planned for the great day when their dreams would become a reality. The Communion Service was prepared, a minister from Pittsburgh was in the pulpit, the church was crowded to the limit with earnest devout worshippers. Many stood outside the door while others looked in through the open windows. Suddenly without a moment's warning, the building began to sink. The walls which supported the floor were built of soft brick, and settled as soon as the large audience assembled. A panic followed with everyone rushing for the door or open windows. One woman in her excitement jumped through an open window and made a happy landing astride the neck of a man standing outside. Realizing that she was uninjured she joyfully cried, "I thank the Lord this is not my abiding place." Doubtless the gentleman beneath heartily agreed with her. However, the people nothing daunted by the disaster, blocked up the floor, returned to the building, and gave attention to an excellent sermon preached by Rev. A. M. Bryan, whose text was taken from John 18:36, "My kingdom is not of this world."

When the church was dedicated it was still in debt. Soon afterwards there was a panic, which paralyzed almost every kind of business, and a number of the prominent members of the church were left almost penniless. Consequently, neither the debt nor the minister's salary could be paid. A group of earnest young christians in the church got together to devise some plan for raising this money. Finally they decided that a flat boat should be built, and loaded with coal, to be floated to Cincinnati and sold to pay the church's debts. In those days coal was

run by hand. There was a variety of tradesmen and some farmers who were members of the church. The farmers cut and hauled in the logs. Permission was given the church members to use the steam saw mill after the regular day's work was done, and willing hands worked each night until nearly morning. They worked in this way until they had sufficient lumber to build the coal boat. Boat-builders at the Boat Yard below town, willingly built the boat and the coal miners, after regular working hours, gladly dug the coal, and there was no expense whatever connected with the project.

The boat was loaded with coal and when a rise in the river came, it was floated, guided by oarsmen, down the Monongahela, and on down the Ohio River to Cincinnati. Both the young people and the older people held prayer meetings and earnestly prayed that the boat might land safely at Cincinnati. James Moore went with the boat as agent. He afterward told how the boat ran against an island and against various obstructions along the shore, but that he believed the prayers of the church at home had saved it from destruction. The coal was sold to a good christian man in Cincinnati for one-half cent per bushel above market price when its history was made known. The church debt was paid and the surplus money placed in the treasury.

The church continued to grow rapidly during its early years, and it was found that a larger church building was an absolute necessity if the church was to continue to grow. Consequently on July 7th, 1864, a lot on Spring Street was purchased from the Louis Marchand heirs for the sum of one hundred and seventy-five dollars. This is the lot on which the second, third and present or fourth church was built. A two-story brick building was erected but the ground floor only was finished at first, the entire building was not completed for about twenty years. When the building was finally remodelled, repaired and finished in 1889, it was 71 feet in length, and 40 feet in width, with a tower and spire 100 feet in height, surmounted by a Roman scroll direction vane. The bell in the tower was one of the finest in the community, the bell from the old church being cast into the new one. The main audience room was 23 feet from the floor to the ceiling, and the ceiling was a segment of a circle. The seating capacity of this room was over 650. Back of the pulpit, extending the full width of the room, 40 feet, was the choir gallery, with a seating capacity of over 50. The room was lighted by eleven stained glass windows, with designs of flowers, and emblems, the emblems being the dove with the olive branch, the open Bible, and the cross and crown.

The figures back of the pulpit were triple gothic, the upper part of the middle one being a clouded scene, with the ascension of Christ painted in oil, life size. The other figures were, on the one side, the tables of stone with the Commandments on them, the other side, the open Bible with the Greek letters, Alpha and Omega. Above and circling the three figures were the words, "I am the Resurrection and the Life." The congregation at this time and for possibly the eight years following was the largest in the history of the church. The church was finally dedicated, or rededicated in 1889 by Dr. Miller of Waynesburg College, assisted by Rev. Silvius, Rev. Henderson and Dr. Noss of the California State Normal School.

On Sunday morning, March 7th, 1897, a fire caused by defective wiring in the attic near the roof, destroyed this large building. Nothing was saved from the interior of the church except the large pulpit Bible, the Bible from which the scripture lesson was read that morning. Section after section of the wall finally fell until there was only one wall left. This was the wall back of the pulpit, it stood alone, fifty feet from the point of the gable to the ground, and it stood there for days after the fire. Unstained even by smoke or falling debris, the three gothic arches remained. The arch on the left picturing the tables of stone with the Commandments written on them. The arch on the right, the open Bible with Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, while above all the mass of material destruction below towered the magnificent figure of the ascending Christ, and his words, "I am the Resurrection and the Life." This picture will never be erased from the memory of those who saw it. Only one object was taken from the ruins in perfect condition, and that was the bell, it was uninjured in the long fall from the tower to the ground.

The congregation continued its regular meetings, now in the "Odd Fellows Hall," until a new church could be built. It was the will of Presbytery at this time that the church be divided, and a new church organized in California. The new church has long since out-distanced the mother church in numbers.

A building committee for the Coal Center church was named, consisting of James E. Hines, S. D. Abercrombie, James W. Burtnett, James B. Ailes and C. A. Frye. Later the name of Lucius Marchand was added to the committee. Soon from the ashes of the old church and on the same ground, a new church arose, more modern in design and convenient in arrangement. This building was a one-floor plan, with an auditorium seating 450, a large lecture room and three smaller class rooms, and a hall which led to both the auditorium and the lecture room. There was a large finished basement and a modern heating system installed. All the rooms were completely furnished, and the building piped for gas and wired for electricity. The bell from the old church was installed in the belfry, and the old Bible placed on the pulpit stand. The church was then dedicated June 5th, 1898. The Rev. Dr. D. E. Bushnell, of Pittsburgh, preached the dedicatory sermon, the pastor, Rev. R. L. Biddle, assisting in the service. We were proud to dedicate our new church free of debt.

Eight years later in 1906, our church, which was organized as a Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and continued as such for seventy years, united with the Presbyterian Church U.S.A., when the two denominations merged. The name Cumberland was then discontinued.

On Jan. 1st, 1908, our beautiful new church which was only ten years old, was almost totally destroyed by fire. One small and two large store rooms were burned and the flames spread to the church. There was time, before the fire made too much headway, to remove among other things, the organ, the piano, the pulpit furniture and the old Bible. Nearly all the stained glass windows were taken out without breaking, but the large window in the front was destroyed. This window was replaced by Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Smith as a memorial window in honor of Mr. Smith's father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Smith. Part

of the walls of this church remained standing after the fire, and the bell still hung in the belfry. Again the building committee was appointed, this time consisting of L. H. Reeves, Wm. Long, S. D. Abercrombie, James E. Hines, Wm. Ailes and John McNeil, Sr. This present, the fourth church, is an exact duplicate of the previous church, the same blueprints were used in the rebuilding. With the aid of the insurance and the faithful and efficient efforts of almost every member of the congregation, the present building was completed and made ready for dedication on April 18, 1909. The Rev. Dr. C. L. McKee of Washington, Pennsylvania, preached the dedicatory sermon. And again we were proud to dedicate our new church building free of debt.

The ministers serving this church from the time of its organization in 1836 to 1936, one hundred years, are as follows: Rev. John Carey, Leroy Woods, S. E. Hudson, W. E. Post, I. N. Carey, J. C. Momyer, Luther Axtell. Rev. Axtell became the pastor in 1869.

Following Rev. Axtell were A. J. Swain, W. F. Silvius, J. F. Childress, J. R. Morris, J. R. Lamb, W. E. Howard, R. L. Biddle, F. M. Moore, R. B. Wilson, Geo. D. Mullendove, Stanley V. Bergen, H. H. Ryland, W. W. Dinsmore, C. L. McCoy, John Teyssier, and Geo. W. Snodgrass. Following the resignation of the Rev. Geo. W. Snodgrass in 1941, the Rev. A. I. Dickenson became our pastor and served the congregation for two years. Since the Rev. Dickenson accepted a call to the church at Buffalo, Pa., our church has been supplied by ministers and laymen of marked ability. We were exceedingly fortunate in securing the Rev. J. Russel Kilty, then of Pittsburgh, who supplied us for nearly a year.

Following this period the Rev. C. E. Snoke, of Washington, Pa., served our church for many months to the entire satisfaction of the congregation. The State Teachers College has furnished us two excellent supplies, men of exceptional ability, these were Dr. I. C. Keller and Mr. John F. Lewis. At the present time our church is being cared for by Rev. Geo. L. Kress of Belle Vernon.

The ruling elders serving the church at this time are Mr. James E. Hines, Mr. D. H. Watkins, Mr. John McNail and Mr. Milton Sisson.

During 1948 the interior of the church has been redecorated and repaired at the cost of about \$1,000.00.

The congregational meeting held at the close of 1948 showed a substantial balance in the treasury of each of the church's organizations.

Our church is not large, but her influence has been felt in quite a few communities. She is the mother of church of Oak Grove, Bentleyville, Beallsville, Roscoe and California, and she is proud of her children.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HAS INTERESTING HISTORY, FINE GROWTH OVER PERIOD OF YEARS

The idea of a Cumberland Presbyterian Church, now the First Presbyterian Church, in California, was first conceived by the Rev. J. R. Lamb, who while pastor of the Coal Center Cumberland Presbyterian Church, about 1895 or earlier, appointed a committee of three men to select a site in California on which to build a mission church, to be the branch of the Coal Center church.

The members of this committee were William H. Winfield, Fred T. Wilkins and David Bowdler.

The committee, after looking over the field and considering the project, decided the time was not ripe for such an undertaking. Later when on Sunday morning, March 7, 1897, the Coal Center church was destroyed by fire, the idea of a church in California began to grow. Petitions were sent to Pittsburgh Presbytery, asking for a relocation of the church, or a division of church funds. These petitions having been denied, another petition was sent to Pittsburgh Presbytery asking for the organization of a church in California, which was granted.

On May 20, 1897, a commission representing Pittsburgh Presbytery, consisting of Dr. D. E. Bushnell and the Rev. J. R. Henry of Pittsburgh and the Rev. W. F. Silveus, D.D., Charleroi, called a meeting in the IOOF Hall, of those who wished to become members of the new church. The First Cumberland Presbyterian Church of California was then formally organized with 115 charter members.

At this meeting Anson B. Ailes, an elder, and David Bowdler, a deacon, both of whom had served in the Coal Center church, were elected to the same offices in the new church. James Herron was elected elder and William R. Holbert was elected deacon. These men were then ordained into their respective offices.

The first session meeting was held May 28, 1897, in the home of James Herron, the Rev. W. E. Howard and Elders Herron and Ailes being present. At this meeting the session approved the arrangements with the Coal Center Church whereby Mr. Howard was to serve both churches as pastor, giving each church half of his services until April 1, 1898.

On June 24, 1897, a meeting of the congregation was called by the moderator, Mr. Howard, and the following officers were elected: Elders, Elmer Dowler, Fred T. Wilkins, William A. Dewar; trustees for three years, William H. Winfield, John H. Jackman; trustees for two years, Charles E. Baker, Louis S. Jackman; trustees for one year, Lamach D. Craft and James H. McCroy; clerk of congregation, Miss Sadie E. Lilley; treasurer, Charles E. Baker; vice moderator of congregation, William R. Holbert; auditors, Morrison J. West, William Britton and Norman K. Wiley; ushers, Fred T. Wilkins, William Britton, Norman K. Wiley and Joseph Anderson.

At this meeting of the congregation, the executive board was formally formed, consisting of the three church boards—the elders, deacons and trustees, with the pastor as chairman. The duties of the board were the consideration of matters pertaining to the entire church and to advise individual boards and the congregation and make nominations for church officers.

The moderator appointed a committee on "Constitution and By-Laws," consisting of William H. Winfield, Miss Etta Lilley and Mrs. Ethel W. Danley, who gave the congregation an excellent basic set of by-laws, which proved to be a protection to and a guide for the church for many years.

The Sunday School, Christian Endeavor and missionary and aid societies were organized very soon after the organization of the church and all worked with much energy and zeal.

Elders-elect, Elmer Dowler and Fred T. Wilkins, were ordained Sunday, July 18, 1897, the pastor officiating. William R. Dewar, also elected elder, had been ordained previously, having served as an elder in another church.

At a meeting of the executive board, July 14, 1897, a committee consisting of Charles E. Baker, Fred T. Wilkins and John H. Jackman, was appointed by the pastor on motion of W. H. Winfield, to select a site on which to erect a church building. This committee secured an option on the William Baker lots in Fourth Street, which was accepted by the congregation and the trustees were instructed to purchase the lots, which they did, the deed being dated April 9, 1898, and recorded at Washington, Pa. The price paid for these lots was \$1,150.00.

On July 26, 1899, the following building committee was named: William H. Winfield, Fred T. Wilkins, Louis S. Jackman, Norman K. Wiley and William K. Coatsworth. This committee secured plans and specifications for a church building from J. Charles Fulton, architect of Uniontown, which were accepted by the congregation February 14, 1900, upon motion of Miss Margaret Dewar and second of Mrs. Ella Coatsworth and the unanimous vote of the congregation.

In order to obtain a bid for the church building to be within a limit of \$10,000.00 it was necessary to make certain reservations concerning heating, seating, plastering, glazing and painting. The contract was let for the erection of the main church building, all with the consent of the congregation.

Ground was broken for the new church building July 5, 1900, but in December the contractors left the work and never returned. The building committee covered the walls to protect them from the winter weather. After legally notifying the contractor and their bondsmen to complete their contract, and upon their failure to do so, the building committee completed the main church building under the supervision of the architect.

The heating, seating, plastering, glazing and painting were later paid for by the congregation as they were completed.

The corner stone was laid September 22, 1900. The principal speaker was the Rev. J. R. Henry of Pittsburgh. In a box in this stone, which was donated by the California Marble Works, were placed 61 articles brought by the members and friends of the church.

The building was "opened" for services on June 8, 1902, with very fitting ceremonies. Services were conducted morning, afternoon and evening, with the pastor, the Rev. J. Reed Morris, Ph.D., in charge, assisted by the Rev. T. M. Hurst and others. The Rev. Charles R. Harmon preached in the morning and the Rev. J. R. Lamb delivered the sermon in the evening. Mr. Hurst spoke during the afternoon. Special music by the choir, led by W. H. Winfield, pleased the audience.

A pleasing feature of the church is its handsome pipe organ. The church through its board, represented by Mr. Morris, the pastor, Fred T. Wilkins, clerk of session, and William H. Winfield, president of the Board of Trustees, sought Andrew Carnegie for an organ and after some waiting, received word that he would pay for the last half of a \$2,000.00 organ when the first half was paid for.

In 1905-06, the union of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church with the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., was discussed here as elsewhere.

The General Assembly in session in Fresno, Cal., in May, 1905, having voted to go into the union, this congregation met October 27, 1906, to vote on the same question. By a vote it was decided to change the name of this church from the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church to the First Presbyterian Church in order to carry out the plan of union between the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The vote was carried in the affirmative although some did not favor the change. A charter incorporating this church was granted on May 8, 1898, the petitions being: Charles E. Baker, J. H. Jackman, Fred T. Wilkins, W. H. Winfield, James H. McCrory, L. S. Jackman, N. K. Wiley, W. R. Holbert, L. D. Craft and David Bowdler.

The Sunday School addition to the church was erected in 1911, using the original plans of Mr. Fulton and under his supervision.

The pastors who have served this church are: Rev. W. E. Howard from May 20, 1897, to October 1, 1899; Rev. J. Reed Morris, Ph.D., from November 19, 1899, to January 31, 1904; the Rev. A. B. Elliott, April 1, 1904, to April 1, 1907; Rev. J. W. Harvey, June 1, 1907, to April 1, 1912; Rev. O. K. Walker, August 6, 1912, to September 20, 1915; Rev. H. C. Currie, October 27, 1915, to his death on May 30, 1921; Rev. A. C. McConnell, February 8, 1922, to December 9, 1924; Rev. John R. Burson, January 18, 1925, to February 28, 1935; Rev. William N. Rae, from November 10, 1935, to September, 1939; Isaac K. Teal, February, 1940—.

The present session includes: J. H. McCormick, Isaiah Orr, E. R. Randlett, Carl McCrory, Dr. Robert M. Steele, Thomas Webber, Walter Ansill, Don T. Faust and H. G. Lightcap.

Present deacons are: Frank Clapperton, Jr., James Harris, William Hess, Jr., Clifford Copenhaver, Norman Klein, James Neil, Clifford Paxton, Alfred Bartolletti and William Neil.

The present trustees are: Howard C. Bell, John Chambers, William Sharpnack, C. A. McDowell, George L. Harris, Charles Shanefelter, A. J. Hoover, Earl Ansell, John J. Anderson.

In 1936, the church, through the board of trustees, acting as a building committee, erected a fine seven room manse, including a study for the pastor. This manse is connected with the church, thus making the main auditorium, the Sunday School room and the manse all one connected building.

The Sunday School was organized May 23, 1897, the organization meeting being presided over by Elder Anson A. Ailes. The first officers were: Fred T. Wilkins, superintendent; Louis S. Jackman, assistant superintendent; Valear L. Minehart, secretary; Russell Ward, assistant secretary, and George P. Wallace, treasurer. The first teachers were Miss Etta Lilley, Mrs. Mary B. Cupp, Mrs. Helen B. Britton, William R. Holbert, Lamach D. Craft, Anson A. Ailes, and Professor John D. Meese.

The present Sunday School officers are: Carl McCrory, superintendent; Miss Adleia Birkinsha, treasurer; Isabelle Layton, secretary; Mrs. Isaac K. Teal, nursery supt.; Mrs. Jay Staley, kindergarten supt.; Miss Mary Harris, primary supt.; Miss Elsie Channing, junior supt. Membership—307.

The Missionary Society was organized June 3, 1897, with 23 charter members. First officers were Mrs. Ethel W. Danley, president; Mrs. Donetta Winfield, first vice-president; Mrs. Helen Britton, second vice-president; Mrs. Lizzie Ailes, secretary; Mrs. Lizzie Dewar, treasurer. Present officers are: Mrs. John F. Lewis, president; Mrs. John Neil, secretary; Mrs. E. F. Harrison, treasurer; Mrs. Robert Wood, first vice-president; Mrs. Robert M. Steele, second vice-president.

Junior Church meets at the Morning Worship hour. It provides religious education and instruction for children from 2 years to 12 years. Visual Education by means of films and slides is constantly provided. The work is in charge of Mrs. James McNeil and Mrs. J. Oliver Johnson. They are assisted by James Conrad, E. R. Randlett and Miss Adelai Birkinsha. This cares for Junior Work.

The Nancy Hazlett chapter of the Westminster Guild was organized June 3, 1935, with nine charter members. The girls chose to honor one of the oldest church members by giving the chapter her name. The first sponsors of this group were Miss Sara Lilley and Mrs. Mabel Dean. During the first six months, Charlotte Hawkins was acting secretary and Esther Miller, treasurer. An election in December named the following officers: Mrs. Grace Dowler, president; Elsie Clanning, vice-president; Selma Johnson, secretary, and Esther Miller, treasurer. Present officers are: President, Mrs. James McCrory; secretary, Mrs. Henry D. Wilkins; treasurer, Miss Adelia Birkinsha.

The Church Choir was organized June 13, 1897, with 34 members. First officers were: W. H. Winfield, director; Agnes Birkinsha, secretary; Lenora Craft, assistant secretary; Renald Ailes, treasurer. Mr. Winfield continued until May 20, 1914, when he resigned, having directed the choir for 17 years. Harry Elwood succeeded Mr. Winfield for about a year, and then W. H. Stoy was director from January, 1916, until May 29, 1932, when he resigned after 16 years service. William Laight, John McVicker, Helen Smith Webber and Mrs. James Elliott have since served as leaders.

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE BEGAN IN CALIFORNIA IN SUMMER OF 1920

Near the close of the nineteenth century a movement for the spread and consecration of scriptural holiness in organized church form developed almost simultaneously in various parts of the United States. This movement was similar to that of the previous century, known as the Wesley Revival.

There was manifested everywhere a spontaneous drawing, in the unity of the Spirit, towards a closer affiliation which finally culminated in the organization of the "Pentecostal Church Of The Nazarene," organized by the Rev. P. E. Breese in Los Angeles in 1895. As these various holiness churches began to spread they heard more of one another and by a series of remarkable "fusions" many of them were welded into the "Church Of The Nazarene" in its present form.

The great impulse of this movement has been the emphasis placed by the scriptures upon the fact in the atonement Jesus Christ made provisions not only to save men from sins but also to "Perfect them in love" and this last as a second work of grace wrought in the hearts of the believers by faith, and, by many known as "Entire Sanctification."

The first Church Of The Nazarene in California was built on Pennsylvania Avenue, in the summer of 1920, by the Rev. F. G. Strickler and his co-laborers.

The meeting opened in October with the Rev. J. L. Glascock as Evangelist, after which a Sunday School was started with M. Jessie White as superintendent and Mr. Strickler as pastor. In December, Dr. J. Howard Sloan, superintendent of the Pittsburgh District of The Church Of The Nazarenes, brought about a formal organization with about twenty-seven members.

Feeling that the progress of the work would be furthered by a more centrally located building, the Pennsylvania Avenue building was sold in 1923 and the present church building was erected on Green Street, between Third and Fourth Streets. The Rev. Charles Hanks pastored the church in its new location for nearly three years and was followed by the Rev. Ralph Schurman, who kept the work for more than a year. The Rev. O. O. Ireland then took the pastorate, laboring in its interest for five years, after which the Rev. James Young and the Rev. M. Estes Haney followed, completing the next four years, until the appointment in May, 1937, of Rev. W. Gordon Graves who served seven years. Rev. W. M. Baker served three years. Rev. Curtis Morrow is the present pastor.

Many souls have sought God at her altars for both pardon and purity. God used this church to start the church at Monongahela, Waltersburg, Stockdale and Waynesburg.

CONGREGATION SONS OF JACOB

Liberty Street

California, Pa.

In accordance with the Biblical Injunction

*"Where there are ten adult male Israelites they shall
form a congregation and worship unto the Lord"*

The Jewish Orthodox Congregation Sons of Jacob of California was organized and chartered in Washington County Court February 20, 1914, by the following members: Max Avner, Nathan Avner, Louis Kotler, Samuel Z. Winer, Lewis Nevins, Abe Harris, Bennie Itskovitz, Phillip Caplan and Harry Silver.

Originally religious services were held in a building on Liberty Street owned by Max Avner.

In 1925 thru the efforts of four of its members, Harry Abramson, Morris Goldman, Max Kotler, and Louis Zacks, the building was purchased, remodeled and refurnished into the present Synagogue.

Services are held on Sabbath, consisting of Friday evening and Saturday, and on Holidays.

Officers of the congregation are President Bernard Spiegel and Secty.-Treas. Dr. Abe Azorsky.

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH

Boyd Crumrine in his "History of Washington County" says: "Prior to 1875, Catholic services were held in Granville (southwest of Coal Center) in the residence of Barney Sloan by Father Herman." There is no record of the first dedication other than the statement that the corner-stone of the present church, located on Spring Street, in Coal Center, was laid in 1888; rededication ceremonies took place on September 6, 1914; Right Reverend Monsignor Joseph Suhr was the celebrant.

Reverend Daniel O'Connell was the first resident pastor; he served the parish faithfully from 1898-1902. Father O'Connell was born in Coachford, County Cork, Ireland; studied at Fermoy College and later at the University of Louvain, Belgium. He was ordained at Maynooth College on June 29, 1875. On coming to America in 1876, he was assigned, as assistant, to St. Paul's Cathedral in Pittsburgh. In April, 1891, he became pastor of St. Thomas' Church in Bedford; and in 1895 was transferred to Connellsville and later to St. Michael's Church in Elizabeth. After his recovery from an illness of three years, he came to Coal Center where he remained until 1902. His pastorate here was terminated by his appointment as pastor of St. Joseph's, North Oakland, where he served until his death on May 13, 1916. "A man of refined and pleasing address, he was a ripe scholar and as a preacher was far above the average, and it was a pleasure to the congregation to hear his eloquent, masterly addresses"—*Lamburg*.

Reverend Thomas Glynn succeeded Father O'Connell. He, too, was born in Ireland; ordained on April 23, 1863, and became the pastor at Coal Center in 1902. At the conclusion of his pastorate, he was transferred to Brownsville. He was often called "a poet and an inventor." Reverend Peter J. McKenna served as assistant and later as parish priest from 1904 to 1908. Following Father McKenna, came Reverend John Barry who at present is pastor of Saint Justins parish in Pittsburgh. Father Barry served as pastor for two years, 1908-1910. From 1910-1919, St. Thomas Aquinas' parish had Reverend Alphonse J. Mayer. On leaving Coal Center, Father Mayer went to Munhall, where he served until 1928.

Many residents of both California and its vicinity have very lasting and treasured memories of the next pastor, Father J. D. Hagan. This very friendly and popular priest came to Coal Center on November 27, 1919. He had just returned from service as an Army Chaplain in World War I. It was with genuine regret that both parishioners and residents of Coal Center and California saw Father Hagan leave to become pastor of Saint Teresa's Church at Homestead Park in 1925. This beloved priest died in Homestead Park in 1947. The next pastor, Reverend James McKeever, came to California in 1919. Like Father Hagan, he, too, served his country as an Army Chaplain. At present Father McKeever is continuing his faithful service at Saint Jerome Church in Charleroi. Reverend Michael A. Cusick succeeds Reverend James McKeever as pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Church.

REV. WILLIAM LAMBERT

The family of which the subject of this sketch was a member gave two priests and a Sister of Mercy to the Church; the second priest being Rev. Louis A. Lambert, the well-known author of *NOTES ON INGERSOL* and other writings, who was long editor of the *NEW YORK FREEMAN'S JOURNAL*. I am indebted to another brother, the late Daniel O. Lambert, Esq., of Coal Center, Pa., for the greater part of the particulars contained in this sketch.

Rev. William Lambert was born in Greenfield, now Coal Center, Washington County, a village on the west bank of the Monongahela, about fifty miles above Pittsburgh, February 22, 1827. His father, William, was a native of County Wexford, Ireland, and his mother's maiden name was Lydia Jones, of Quaker descent, her ancestors having come over with William Penn; but she was received into the Church at or soon after her marriage. At the age of fifteen young William was taken by Father M. Gallagher of Brownsville, to Philadelphia where he pursued his studies until the breaking out of the Know-Nothing excitement when he escaped from the city with Bishop Kenrick in disguise, and came to Pittsburgh, where he continued his studies. Bishop Gilmour has told us that he was one of those who went to St. Xavier's, Cincinnati, when the Seminary at Pittsburgh was closed the first time. But it would appear that he either finished his studies at Baltimore, or else the good Bishop was mistaken, for he was ordained in that city along with Rev. John Larkin, by Archbishop Eccleston, October 25th, 1849.

He was first sent to the Indiana Mission, attending, besides the town, Cameron Bottom, Saltsburg and perhaps other places for a short time. He was then located at Brownsville and had charge of its missionary field, which was the last place he held in the diocese of Pittsburgh, leaving it for Erie, which had so lately been cut off, in 1854. Soon after he began to labor in Rockford, Illinois, where, and at other places in that state he spent about eight years; after which he came to Philadelphia, in 1863, returning to Illinois at the end of about five years. His last field of labor was West Virginia, which he entered about 1873, where he remained till the time of his death, laboring in various places. He celebrated the Golden Jubilee of his ordination October 25, 1899, and died in the hospital at Wheeling, May 4, 1900, in the 74th year of his age and the 51st of his priesthood. His remains were brought to Elizabeth, Pa., and were laid to rest by the side of his parents, who had spent the closing years of their lives in that town.

The Rev. William Lambert was stationed in Brownsville from May 18, 1851, until March 18, 1854—attending Westmoreland, Fayette, Greene, Somerset, and Washington Counties.

(In the life of Father Peter Helbron O. M. Cap, first pastor in the Pittsburgh-Brownsville district.—he visited Washington County in the summer of 1800).

FOUNDATION STONES OF A GREAT DIOCESE

re: Elizabeth.

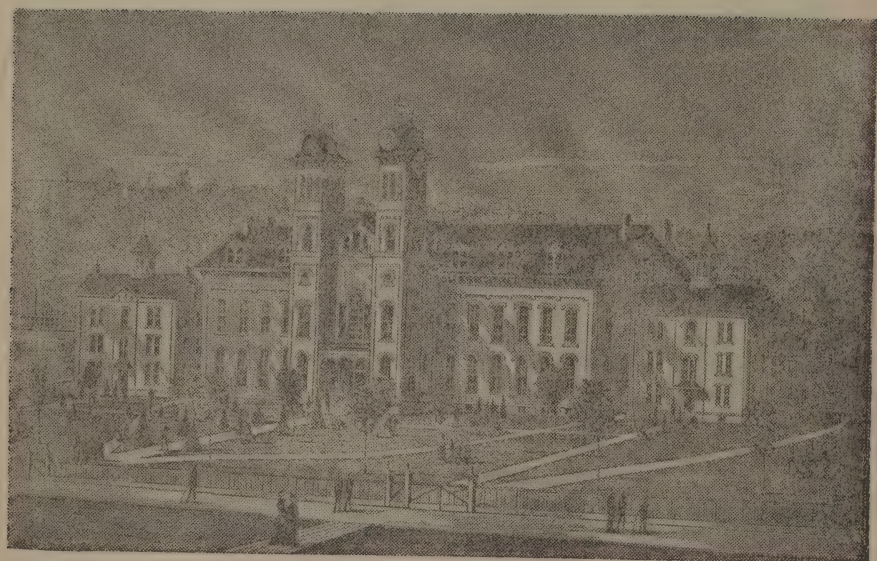
The first information we possess of the formation of a congregation at Elizabeth is about the year 1849. And here we shall quote from an interesting letter addressed to the pastor a few years ago by the learned Rev. L. A. Lambert, which, if it goes somewhat into minor details, these details will be found interesting and illustrative of the times.

Says Dr. Lambert: "The first priest I remember to have come to Elizabeth was the venerable Father Michael Gallagher, who came down from Brownsville, which was the center of his large missionary field. That was in 1844, when I was nine years old. So vivid was the impresion made on my memory that I can, while writing this, see his benevolent features as distinctly as if his photograph were before me. He was a large, serious-faced, bald-headed man. He wore a long black coat, and carried a large carpet bag containing the vestments, as I later learned. As my father's house was the only, and I think the first Catholic home in Elizabeth at that time, the priest took up his lodgings with us. Next morning Father Gallagher heard confessions and celebrated Mass on the bureau. When Mass was over and while the priest removed and folded his vestments the few present went up quietly and placed their offering on the corner of the bureau and went their way homeward. Besides a solid instruction on Catholic duties at the Gospel, this was the usual proceeding when Father Gallagher came, which was three or four times a year, etc."

ITALIAN CHRISTIAN CHURCH, located on Fifth Street. Land purchased from Mr. Hickman. Dedicated 1949. No further information available at time of printing.

NEGRO BAPTIST CHURCH, located on Wood Street in old American Legion Room. Just recently formed. No information available at time of printing.

Our Educational Development



CALIFORNIA STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

MONONGAHELA REPUBLICAN

Issue of Thursday, September 3, 1868:

LAYING THE CORNER STONE

CALIFORNIA, SEPT. 1, 1868

The laying of the corner stone of the South Western Normal College at California, August 26th, by the I. O. of O. F. was a decided success. Early in the morning strangers were coming in and by eleven o'clock the Steamer Chief-tain arrived at our wharf with a large crowd of people from Monongahela City, Elizabeth, Belle Vernon, and all along the river, among whom were Gov. Geary and Hon. Geo. V. Lawrence and other public men. The Governor and Mr. L. were escorted to the house of Elder Riggs by the Silver Cornet Band of West Newton. By this time the Steamer Elector arrived from up the river with a large delegation of Odd Fellows from several points, at one o'clock the procession formed in line and marched through the principal streets of Greenfield and California, then proceeded to the College ground, where the service of laying the corner stone was conducted in a most impressive manner, by Rev. Herr, of Washington, Pa., assisted by Rev. Momyer of this place, after which Gov. Geary delivered an excellent address on the subject of Normal Schools. The crowd then adjourned to the M. E. Church, where an address on the subject of Odd Fellowship was delivered by the Rev. Herr. The number present that day was variously estimated at from three to five thousand persons. It was the uprising intelligence of the valley coming together from a principle of good and not of idle curiosity. The whole affair was conducted in a quiet and orderly manner.

MONONGAHELA REPUBLICAN

Issue of Thursday, September 10, 1868:

Down on Odd Fellows—The Presbyterian Banner of last week speaking of the Corner Stone ceremonies of California says:—

"We notice in the report of the proceedings, that the task of laying the corner stone was imposed upon the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. We would like to know by what authority this was done. This is a State institution, and why it should be placed at its very beginning, even by implication, especially under the auspices of the Order of Odd Fellows, or any other Society, seems passing strange. In this we are not saying anything to the prejudice of the Order, but to the impropriety of committing such a work to any particular Society. If this corner stone had been laid under the peculiar auspices of the Presbyterian, or the Methodist, or the Baptist Church, there would have been good ground for complaint, which would quickly have been heard, and we cannot see why the objections are not equally strong against what actually took place. It is just about time that the custom of laying the corner stones of public institutions with ceremonies peculiar to particular Societies and under their immediate auspices, should cease."

A Tribute of Respect to Dr. Ehrenfeld

The recent death of Dr. C. L. Ehrenfeld, an honored principal of this Normal School, at York, Pa., Jan. 31, 1914, brings to a close a long and eventful life. Educated for the ministry and having entered upon that work, he was induced in 1871 to take up the work as principal of the school at California bringing to his work ripe scholarship and rare culture. He hesitated to come because the school though already granted \$15,000 by the State was still struggling with debt and unable to go forward to meet the requirements of the law in the construction and equipment of dormitories. But having entered upon the work he bent his energies to secure additional help from the state, and under his wise leadership assisted by men prominent in state affairs he succeeded in getting \$10,000 more and thus the school was tided over its hard place and went forward to recognition in 1874.

In this struggle to obtain help for the school at California, a new era for the normal schools of the state was introduced and a larger liberality shown towards them. For this result Dr. Ehrenfeld is justly entitled to distinguished honor.

Dr. Ehrenfeld deserves to be remembered because under adverse circumstances he gave his time, his thought and energy to the building up of this Normal School at a time when to do so tried men's souls and when weaker and less determined men would have yielded. His going at last in 1877 was doubtless prompted by the thought that some other man might be found who would better fit into the peculiar work of the Normal School and who could better afford to wait for that financial support needed in such position.

His return to the school from Wittenburg College in 1892 to fill the place of principal for a year during the absence of Dr. Noss in Europe was highly satisfactory to his old associates and friends in the school, and community. Equally so was his continuance in the school after Dr. Noss's return as vice-principal and teacher in Latin and English.

The death of his wife, Ellen Hatch Ehrenfeld, after a long illness in the school buildings, and failing health during the year 1912-13, caused him to resign his place in the school to take effect at the close of the school year. He then made his home with his son Charles at York, Pa., where he died after a short illness at the advanced age of 82 years.

In view of Dr. Ehrenfeld's services to this school and the cause of education in Western Pennsylvania,

BE IT RESOLVED

(1) That we hold him in high esteem as an educational leader, as a citizen and as a man; for his high standard of scholarship, for his attitude on moral and religious questions, for his hatred of shams, for his keen insight into questions of public policy and his bold stand for the right.

(2) That we shall miss him from his place in the school, from our homes and from the community; that a copy of this paper be furnished the family, that this memorial be spread on the minutes of the Board of Trustees and published in the Sentinel and Normal Review.

Committee—G. G. Hertzog, W. H. Winfield, J. F. Colvin.



History of California State Teachers College

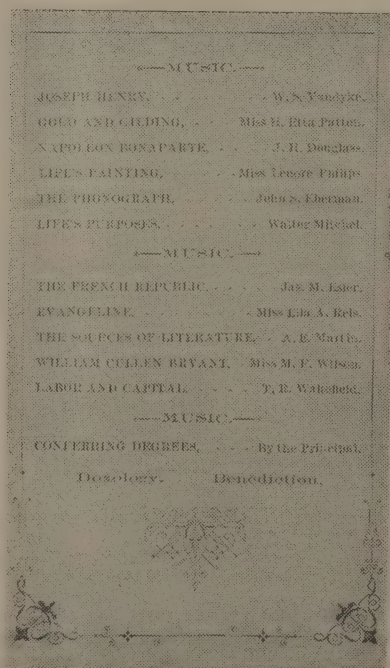
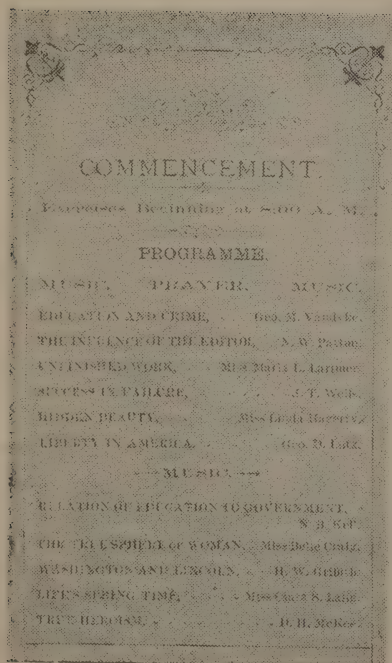
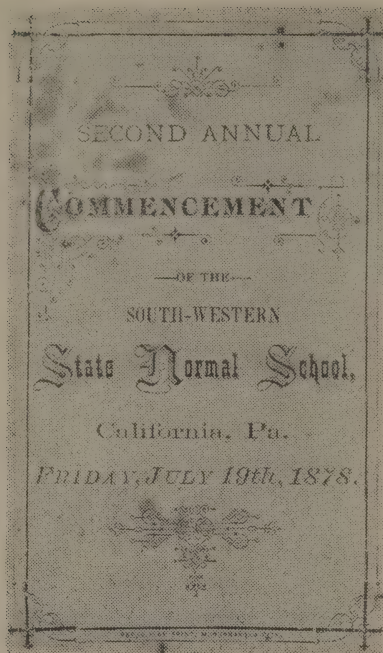
For most of the information contained herein, I wish to give credit to Professor Charles Ehrenfeld, the first Principal of the Normal School of the Tenth District, and Professor G. G. Hertzog, an instructor in the school continuously for half a century, and the father of Professor Walter S. Hertzog, Principal of the Normal School from 1912-1919.

The early history of the town and school are so intimately related that it is almost impossible to give a separate account of either. The incorporators of the town were the same men who laid the foundation of this college—dreamers with the courage to make their dreams come true.

But to our school. Those of you who studied Barnes' History of the United States will remember that the author divided it into six epochs. Plagiarizing from that work and, also, from Professor Ehrenfeld's history of the South Western State Normal School, I will divide the educational history of California not into six, but into five epochs.

Two years after the plotting of the town, California had its FIRST SCHOOL EPOCH. This was the "Public" or "Common" School and died in infancy, living only one year—1851-1852. The Rev. Samuel Rothwell was its first and only instructor. Rev. Rothwell was the father of A. L. Rothwell who lived across the road from the upper campus and was a lay preacher of the M. E. Church. Many of us remember Rev. Rothwell quite distinctly, not only as a preacher but as one of the greatest artisans in wood of his age, and anyone fortunate enough to possess any of his work has a treasure almost beyond price.

The SECOND EPOCH included the founding of the California Seminary or Academy, it being known by both names. This epoch was of longer duration than its predecessor, enduring from 1852-1865, or the close of the Civil War. Again I repeat, the founders of this town were men of vision and courage. They believed in advanced education, and, of course, were anxious to advertise the new town. The building erected to house this new venture was located at the corner of Fifth and Liberty Streets, on the site now occupied by our Senior High School. It was a substantial hand-pressed brick building of two stories. The ground floor consisted of a center hall with the class rooms opening on the left and right. The second floor was one large room, dignified by the name of "Seminary Hall," and accommodated three hundred people, although, old residents claim to have seen twice that many there.



When the Seminary was founded in 1852, no effort was made to secure a charter for the institution. All moneys levied for school purposes in the Borough were paid to its trustees, and it was not only a Seminary but the Public School of the town, an arrangement that endured throughout the second, third, and most of the fourth epochs, not being terminated until 1913.

The first Principal of the new school was Professor Ellis N. Johnson, a nephew of Job Johnson, one of the original incorporators of the town. Professor Johnson was assisted by Professor N. D. Fanning and Miss Jane Scott, all three instructors coming here from Ohio.

Five years after the establishment of the Seminary (1857), an Act of the Legislature divided the state into twelve Normal School Districts, and in this division the counties of Washington, Fayette, Greene, and Somerset were constituted the Tenth Normal School District. Millersville, in Lancaster County, had a flourishing school with many students, adequate buildings and equipment even before this division by the Legislature, so the state, in 1857, was delighted to recognize it as the first Normal School of the Commonwealth, it representing the Second District. California possessing little, or none, of the qualifications of Millersville, determined to try and secure a charter for its Seminary as the State Normal School of the Tenth District. In Wickersham's "History of Education in Pennsylvania," he says, "From the time the success of the experiment at Millersville became known, the undertaking of a similar enterprise at California was freely discussed." Foremost in pushing forward the movement was Job Johnson, a Quaker, in this Scotch-Irish country, and a man of great public spirit. So, in 1859, California made its first request for recognition as a State Normal School. We were centrally located in the Tenth District and were ambitious. Accordingly, a bill was prepared, and after favorably passing both houses of the Legislature, was vetoed by Governor Packer. The Governor gave three reasons for his adverse decision: First, because the bill proposed to combine the three-fold functions of a Common School, of a privately endowed Seminary, and of a Normal School; Second, because its provisions were inconsistent with each other, and with the Common School law, as well as with the general law in regard to State Normal Schools; Third, because the practical operation of the bill would be subservient of the interests and prosperity of the Common Schools of the Borough, and the rights and interests of the Tenth Normal School District, under the Act Establishing Normal Schools. Governor Packer further said, "There is no apparent reason why the Tenth Normal District should be organized, under a special law, nor why the California Seminary should be recognized as the Normal School of that district before it has been properly organized and established under the general law." There can be no doubt that the Governor was justified in his action, for with the nation threatened by a great fraternal conflict, money scarce and prices high, there was a great decrease in the number of pupils and a lessened enthusiasm. Professor Ehrenfeld, in his history of the school further, emphasizes the justness of the Governor's veto by the following statistics:

In 1859 California's population—men, women, and children—was 476. In 1865, end of the second epoch, when we did succeed in securing a charter, not for a Normal School but for the Southwestern Normal College, the population

was 576, of which 220 were school children. The amount levied for school purposes was \$527. Adding to these figures the like statistics for the neighboring Borough of Greenfield, now Coal Center, thus including the whole community, we had a total population in 1865 of 945 persons, a levied school tax of \$855.49, and a State appropriation of \$140.22. And we wanted a Normal School! Is it surprising that, while the bill was under discussion in the legislature, a hard-boiled member arose and remarked: "The people of California must have regarded the Normal School Law as a joke, or have looked at their Seminary through an immense magnifying glass." Nevertheless, Professor Hertzog said that when the news of the Governor's decision reached California it was as crushing a disappointment as the killing frost and freeze that came to a large section of the country June fifth of that year. This year, 1859, also witnessed the resignation of Professor Johnson, Principal of the Seminary, to be succeeded by Professor H. C. Gilchrist, another Ohio educated man but a Pennsylvanian by birth. Professor Gilchrist had received his education in Poland Institute, Antioch, Ohio, under the instruction of Horace Mann, still a name to conjure with in education. The faculty had in addition to the Principal, Professor M. D. Fanning, a hold-over from the regime of Professor Johnson, Professor Maynard, Professor W. N. Hull, a recruit from the Normal School at Millsboro, Pennsylvania, Mrs. H. C. Gilchrist, J. T. Teal, and George L. Osborne.

But the present looked dark and the future darker, not only for California and its school, but the nation, as well—financial shortage everywhere. Professor Gilchrist was forced, during his incumbency, to teach a select school in Fayette City (1863-1864) and accepted the Principalship of Brownsville's Public School (1864-1865) in order to give employment to his teaching force here. During these absences, Professor W. N. Hull was acting head of the Seminary. But all this time, like an undertow, the movement to be recognized as a State Normal School kept moving; and in looking over old records I find, even then, that the Bible injunction "In honor preferring one another" was not strictly obeyed, for I find two claimants for the honor of being the stimulus behind the movement. Professor Gilchrist, in a letter dated October 19, 1899, says: "I wrote the first letter initiating the movement to obtain a charter for the Seminary as a Normal School, from Fayette City in 1864, to Job Johnson, and shortly after went up to California and had a conference with him, Mr. Hornbake, Mr. Morgan, and Mr. Sickman. I prepared its charter and attended to its interests while it was before the legislature, assisted by others, of course." And in the Normal Review of April, 1892, I find this letter from W. N. Hull: "I had been teaching in a Normal School at Millsboro, Pennsylvania, with Thomas Horner, and upon his death moved to California, and was principal of its Seminary and Public School for two years. Knowing that Mr. Horner's enterprise at Millsboro could not succeed in securing State recognition, California seemed to me a suitable place for the State Normal School, and I began at once to agitate the question. I wrote to Professor Gilchrist, who was teaching at Fayette City, and proposed that he come up in the spring and help start the wheels. He responded in person by the next boat, and we talked and planned."

Quoting again from State Superintendent of Instruction Dr. Wickersham in his "Education of Pennsylvania," page 621: "No inducement in money from the State, either present or prospective, was held out for the establishment of the

Normal Schools. They must come to the State properly organized and equipped ready for business." California was not ready but she determinedly set out to be. Early in 1864 subscriptions of stock were sold, the money thus secured to be used for the purchase of grounds and erection of buildings.

The first recorded meeting of those who purchased this stock was held in Seminary Hall, June 16, 1864. Professor J. T. Teal, County Superintendent of Greene County, also a teacher in the Seminary here, was Chairman of the meeting. The election of officers by the stockholders resulted in the following: President, Joseph A. Lambert; Vice President, L. W. Morgan; Secretary, Samuel Sickman. In the minutes of this meeting, it is recorded that the County Superintendents of Washington, Fayette, and Greene Counties, Messrs. Buffington, Yeagley and Teal, respectively, were appointed to select a site for the Normal School building. Professor Hertzog, in his history, says, "There is no record that this committee ever took any action toward securing a location, and in a trustee meeting held three months later, Abner Jackson, J. C. Momyer, and Job Johnson were selected to secure a location. Three locations received serious consideration: The Gregg property, on the hill above the Public School; the Rothwell plot, now a part of the Borough, across Third Street from the Teachers' College, and its present location. The original plot consisted of ten acres and was purchased from Edward Riggs for \$133.44. At the meeting of the trustees in October, G. W. Hornbake, L. W. Morgan, and Job Johnson were appointed to close the contract. This deed bears the date of November 14, 1864.

California again went before the State Legislature for a charter of incorporation, which was granted by Governor Andrew G. Curtin, March 16, 1865. Section 1 said: "The corporate name and title of this Institution shall be Southwestern Normal College of Pennsylvania, until and before the time it may be recognized as a State Normal School, under the Act of the Legislature passed April 15, 1857, when it can take such name and title as may be consistent with that Act."

When the news of the action of Governor Curtin reached California the rejoicing was almost as great as at the news of Lee's surrender one month later. The inauguration meeting was held in Seminary Hall with the room so crowded that even the windows and doors were filled with jubilant citizens. I have been told by the "oldest inhabitant" that the most eloquent orations of Marc Anthony, Disraeli or Wm. J. Bryan were child babbling compared with the speeches made on that occasion. There was no fanfare or gun salute for any one person responsible for the victory, for each and every one there felt himself the conquering hero.

And the second epoch became "a tale that is told." The Seminary was gone forever. The King is dead! Long live the King!

Our THIRD EPOCH is the history of the school as a college, an era that began March 16, 1865 and closed May 28, 1874.

The stockholders of the newly created college met the first Monday in May, 1865, and elected twenty trustees as provided in the charter. The officers of the first board were: L. W. Morgan, President; Abner Jackson, Vice President, and Samuel Sickman, Secretary. Professor Gilchrist was elected Principal, and he with five other teachers, comprised the Faculty, one of whom was Miss Caroline Knox, of Brownsville, sister of the late United States Senator Knox.

I mentioned that in 1864 subscriptions of stock were sold, but in 1865 a more determined effort was made to raise money by this means. Shares were sold for \$25.00 per share and bore no interest. The money thus secured was to be used in establishing a State Normal School, by making it possible, through proper buildings, equipment, teachers, and pupils to meet the requirements of the Normal School Law.

The owner of a share of stock could become a trustee and could vote for trustees, but no one, no matter how much stock he held, could have more than five votes. I can remember, some years later at the annual May elections, when the voting was expected to be close, that certificates of stock quite often found themselves in new and strange hands, but voting, at least supposedly, according to the wishes of their owners. It is said that the highest price ever realized by the sale of this stock was \$5.00 per share.

When you understand that the trustees expected to raise \$50,000.00 by the sale of this non-interest bearing stock and take into consideration that our population numbered less than a thousand persons, and remember that for four years the war was almost the only thought of the American people, you must concede they had the courage of their convictions.

This same year, 1865, at the June meeting of the Board of Trustees, the expenditure of \$150.00 was authorized for books and apparatus for a Library, consequently the College and its Library celebrated their birthdays together.

The first catalogue of the Southwestern Normal College was printed this year also, for Professor Hertzog in his paper read before the "Old Timers' Reunion," held in 1905, refers to it, but the earliest one that I could find bears a date of four years later—1869.

In 1866, Professor Gilchrist was elected County Superintendent of the schools of Washington County, but not withstanding this fact, in 1867, he was reelected head of the College here, which action caused the failure of his renomination for County Superintendent. The year 1867 was made memorable by two important events in the life of the school. The summer term of that year witnessed the largest enrollment of students in its history—125 names appearing on its roster. At this term the first experiment in what is known as practice teaching, was made. An experiment so successful that a new subject was added to the curriculum.

You remember it had been estimated that \$50,000.00 would be needed to get the Normal School started, but up to this year (1867) only \$12,000.00 had been secured by the sale of stock, yet we find this resolution in the minutes of the March meeting of that year. "Resolved: That this board impelled by an earnest desire to prosecute the work of erecting the Normal School Building, shall immediately take the necessary steps."

Accordingly, plans were drawn by Barr and Moser, of Pittsburgh, for the central building and the two dormitories. Nothing was done this year, however, but the burning of two brick kilns on the ground near the river, and Professor Hertzog says the Sheriff's tab was on them before they were paid for.

The next year, at a trustee meeting held April 20, 1868, it was decided to borrow \$15,000.00 and they must have been two-thirds successful, for the records of the May meeting state that \$10,000.00 had been secured. Work was started immediately after Job Johnson had done the necessary surveying, although his health had become seriously impaired, and he was physically unfit for such labor. The contract for the stone and brick work was let to Meredith Brothers, of Monongahela, and the woodwork to John R. Powell & Brothers, of California.

The laying of the cornerstone took place August 26, 1868, with the Governor of Pennsylvania, General John W. Geary, making the principal address. I read part of it, and you can take my word for it, —it was some eloquent effort, also some lengthy one. But the chief promoter in this good enterprise, was conspicuous by his absence. Job Johnson was too sick to attend, and less than a month later, September 4, 1868, passed to hear the welcome "Well Done." Old residents remember him as a man of the greatest personality and accomplishments—a lawyer, surveyor, promoter of every good enterprise, friend of the oppressed, of whom none could say ill, and many could rise up and call him blessed.

The winter after the laying of the cornerstone, the brick walls were up, but no money for a roof. The December meeting of the trustees sent Professor H. C. Gilchrist and Mr. L. W. Morgan to Harrisburg to plead with the legislature, then in session, for more favorable financial consideration. The mills of the Gods grind slowly, for it was not until the next year that a bill passed that body to aid the College in the sum of \$15,000.00, to be paid in three equal annual installments.

There was most decided opposition to the bill, and it is doubtful if it would have passed at all if the Senator of this district, Senator Taylor, had not promised that our school would be ready for recognition, at most, within a year. Senator White, of Indiana County, made a most urgent appeal for the passage of the bill and said, "The County of Washington has justly earned the title of 'Promoting Liberal Education'."

In 1864-65, while Professor Gilchrist was Principal of the Brownsville Schools, the schools of West Brownsville, on the opposite side of the river, were under the able management of George Gans Hertzog, a young man who had been a teacher in Fayette County for eight years. Mr. Hertzog met Professors Gilchrist and Osborne, and they persuaded him to come to California. He entered as a student in 1866 and the next year was elected Assistant to the Principal of the College, Professor Gilchrist, who, you remember, was serving our county as its Superintendent of Schools. Those of us who knew G.Y., as he was affectionately called, during the fifty-three years he moved among us, can testify that he possessed in a superlatively degree the qualities that make a man. Were I Floyd Gibbons, I still could use all the time allotted for this paper in happy memories of him as teacher in this school, Secretary of its Board of Trustees, and as a model citizen of this community, and then you could truthfully make the remark accredited to the Queen of Sheba.

In the fall of 1870, although the new building was not nearly completed and but scantily furnished, the College was moved from the old Seminary building to its new location, but was saddened by what Professor Ehrenfeld says was one of the most pathetic incidents in the school's history—the resignation of Professor

Gilchrist. Financial necessity made it imperative that he do so. He was receiving only \$100.00 per month salary and out of this princely sum he had to pay incidental expenses. Professor Gilchrist accepted the principalship of the State Normal School at Fairmont, West Virginia. Until the election of Professor Ehrenfeld, in 1871, to fill the vacancy caused by Professor Gilchrist's resignation, Professor G. G. Hertzog was the acting head of the college here. In addition to Professor Ehrenfeld's acknowledged superior mental ability and attainments, he must have been a man of more than average moral courage to accept the position here.

The state appropriation of \$15,000.00 was gone and the Trustees petitioned the legislature for permission to put a mortgage of \$50,000.00 on the unfinished buildings to run for a period of fifteen years. This request was granted by the State Legislature and, although the Trustees offered 8% on this mortgage, it was only possible to secure \$16,000.00 by this means.

The year 1871 looked hopeless for the College. Here, two years after the appropriation of \$15,000.00 to an unrecognized school had been made, paid over, and expended, the work of building, not to mention equipment, at a standstill; with the incomplete building mortgaged for \$16,000.00, all it would carry; and with a floating debt of \$10,000.00 besides, it is not surprising that State Superintendent Wickersham was displeased and discouraged with the school, and made the State more determined than ever, not to aid any school until really established and organized by the community which desired it. But, nevertheless, Professor Ehrenfeld decided to go before the Legislature in 1872 for a further appropriation of \$10,000.00, which encountered most bitter opposition even from those who in 1869 had been most favorable to the first appropriation. Notably among those most vehemently opposing the new bill was Senator White, who, three years before, had so fearlessly espoused our cause. But, due to the valiant fight of Senator George V. Lawrence, and Representative Billingsley and others, the amount asked for by Professor Ehrenfeld was granted, and the central building was rapidly pushed to completion. The north dormitory, also, was made ready for occupancy for the fall term, the south dormitory not being finished until four years later, 1876.

From the catalogue of 1869, I quote the following: "Four United States Mail Packets ply daily between Pittsburgh and Brownsville, stopping on all trips at the wharf of California. The National Pike Road from Wheeling to Cumberland is but three miles distant, and lines of stages afford communication with the whole country. Students having railroad connections with Pittsburgh will do best to go there and then take, at the Monongahela Wharf, one of the packets which depart three times a day and arrive in six or seven hours. Those who come by stage can stop at Malden, three miles distant, and walk or obtain a private conveyance, or they can go to Brownsville and come down by the boats—distance five miles."

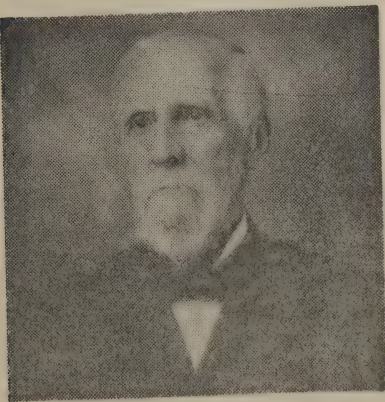
And in the catalogue for 1871-72, on page 15, you may read this: "While, therefore, a great deal has been done we are yet not ready for recognition, but we are pressing forward with our building and other work in order to obtain recognition, at farthest, by the winter of 1873-74." Rather a far cry from the promise made by Senator Taylor, in 1869, that we would be ready in a year, at most.

In the same catalogue quoted above we find, "We propose, therefore, to prepare a class for graduation by the summer of 1874. We are making arrangements accordingly to put our classes under way immediately, during the coming year, without waiting until we are recognized. Recognition does not assist in preparing classes; it only enables the school to graduate them. We, therefore, invite students to enter our classes without delay." Even this promise could not be fulfilled, for not until the following year, 1875, did the school graduate its first class.

But May, 1874, came at last, the day appointed for official inspection of grounds, buildings, and equipment. The State officials found everything satisfactory except that the accounts of the school showed an indebtedness of \$25,000.00, this being \$5,000.00 more than the statute limit. The Trustees hurriedly met and authorized the President of the Board, John Dixon, to assume the surplus debt on behalf of the members of the Board and the community. This being done, State Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Wickersham, officially recognized our College as the South Western State Normal School, on behalf of the Sovereign State of Pennsylvania.

Thus in mingled feelings of joy and sorrow, we saw the sun rise of a new day; —Joy in the successful accomplishment of a twenty-two year struggle and sorrow that those to whom the accomplishment meant so much were, Moses-like, not permitted to witness the reality of their vision.

The FOURTH EPOCH, as a State Normal School, was to be the longest in its history. It had required twenty-two years of arduous labor, unremitting vigilance, diplomacy, and political subterfuge with those higher up to acquire our new dignity. But the security of the future was not assured. The skies were still dark and the water rough.



CHARLES LEWIS EHRENFELD
First Principal of The Southwestern
Pennsylvania State Normal School.

In 1871, while the school was still a college, Professor Charles Ehrenfeld had been elected principal to succeed Professor Gilchrist, and he was still in the position when we became a Normal School, remaining in that capacity until February, 1877. Professor Ehrenfeld was particularly well adapted for the task of launching the new venture. For three years he had had every opportunity of learning our resources, or lack of them, rather. He knew that we were entering upon our new regime with an indebtedness of \$25,000.00, \$5,000.00 more than the State permitted, and an immense sum for that time; that the agreement dating from the second epoch, 1852, whereby the public school of the borough, by paying its taxes for educational purposes, into the Normal School, be-

came a part of the institution—an arrangement that never ceased to be a source of great friction until its dissolution in 1913—was one that required judicious handling. Then there was the matter of trustees and school director. The stockholders of the school elected twelve local trustees, the state appointed six state

trustees—who, however, had previously been voted upon by the stockholders, the state usually appointing those having received the highest vote of this electorate, and the school directors elected by the borough at its regular elections. When you consider the disagreements and antagonisms that can arise on one school board, you can have a faint idea of the conditions when multiplied by three. Section Three of Article IV of the by-laws of the South Western Normal School read, "The principal of the school shall be elected by the trustees, his duties shall be to be present at the meetings of the board, to govern and manage the school, and to exercise general supervision over all its departments, to make nominations for teachers and do all required or implied by the position which he fills, etc." As the public school of the borough was considered a part of the Normal School, the principal of the latter would nominate the teachers of the former, thus nullifying any action that the directors of the town might make, unless it agreed with the course mapped out by the principal supported by his board of trustees. It was an anomalous position for the town and its directors, but Professor Ehrenfeld was most diplomatic and it was many years after the expiration of his term of office that this condition became most critical.

It is not surprising that Dr. Ehrenfeld, who had been educated for the ministry and had entered upon the duties of his profession, hesitated to become head of the school here. But not only our own school, but all the Normal Schools of the state, owed him much. In his struggle before the State Legislature, to secure aid for the school at California, a new era for the Normal Schools was introduced and a larger liberality shown toward them.

There was another—perhaps the most powerful factor—John N. Dixon. Mr. Dixon lived on a farm just across the river, and considered wealthy for that day, and at an early date became the financial bulwark of the school. The state appropriations were never adequate to meet the requirements of the school, and often slow in arriving, so for this reason, as well as for accumulating obligations, the empty treasury of the school had to be replenished by borrowing. But the school had no assets upon which it could obtain money from the banks. At these times it was Mr. Dixon that put his potent name on the paper and secured the loans and if this was not sufficient, he persuaded his sister to attach her signature. At one time during great financial stress, the property of Mr. and Miss Dixon were mortgaged to the limit in order for the school to carry on. He was a charter member of the board of trustees of the College, being elected May, 1865, and in 1870 became its president. When, in 1874, we became a Normal School, he was chosen president of its board of trustees, remaining in that capacity until 1910, 40 years of unselfish service, when on account of advanced age and to give him relief from the active duties of his position, he was elected President Emeritus as a mark of honor, and if any should ask why his name is inscribed over one of the buildings of the campus, it can truthfully be said, it is in honor of the man who made the school at California possible. Quoting from Professor Hertzog's eulogy on this occasion of his death—September 24, 1912, at the advanced age of 88 years—"It was, however, an heroic band he led to victory. Men like Job Johnson, L. W. Morgan, G. W. Hornbake, Capt. J. K. Billingsley, S. W. Craft, and many others stood shoulder to shoulder with him to fight the battles of the school and win its victories."

The official recognition as a Normal School coming on May 26, 1874, just one month before the closing of the school year, so we really began our new career in September of that year. There were three semesters—the fall and winter session beginning in September, the spring and summer term starting in March, and the Institute term of six weeks in July and August. The first faculty consisted of twelve teachers, the senior class boasted two members, and the junior class numbered thirty-six. The catalog of 1875 shows that the two seniors graduated according to schedule, but something dreadful must have befallen those juniors, for the class of 1876 numbered just six, one of whom was Dr. J. B. Smith, who, the following year, 1877, became a member of the faculty, remaining connected with the school as teacher, vice principal and registrar until his death. The entire enrollment, exclusive of the model school, for 1874-75, was 359 pupils. There were several factors that contributed to this enrollment, but the greatest perhaps was the passage of the State Aid Appropriation bill, in 1874. This Act appropriated \$28,000.00 to aid Normal School students. All students over 17 years of age who agreed to teach in the common schools of the state were to receive 50c per week, or if he were an orphan of a soldier or sailor who had lost his life in the service of the U. S., \$1.00 per week, and should he promise to teach two years in the Commonwealth after graduation, he received a bonus of \$50.00. When you consider that room and board were but \$3.00 per week and tuition \$1.25, the amount donated by the state assumes greater significance than it would today.

Since H. G. Wells and Rupert Hughes have made it not only permissible but popular to tell the bad as well as the good of even our greatest characters, it may truthfully be said all was not as peaceful as a Lowell day in June even this early in the school's history.

In the May election of trustees, in 1867, while the school was still a college, Professor G. G. Hertzog had been chosen a trustee, although in September of the previous year he had been elected as the teacher of mathematics. The question of the legality of his position on the board of trustees was raised, but we find him serving at Secretary Pro Tem of the April, 1868, meeting, and in the June meeting elected permanently for the position, which he continued to fill, and fill most excellently, with the exception of one and one-half years for half a century. But why the eighteen months vacation? Ah, thereby hangs the tale. At the February meeting, of 1875, of the board a resolution was passed to abide by the opinion of State Superintendent Wickersham to the effect that while it was not unlawful, it was not feasible for one person to hold both the office of trustee and teacher. And here in utter disregard of its own action, when a vacancy occurred on the board in September, 1875, Professor Hertzog was elected the next month to fill it. This action so outraged Principal Ehrenfeld that he filled two large, closely written pages with his protest, but the board records show Professor Hertzog back on the job, July, 1876. It was found impossible to fill his place. Filling three and sometimes four positions—teacher in the Normal School, Principal of the Public School, Secretary and sometimes Treasurer of the board of trustees, he was never hurried, never tired, and always a gentleman.

But all during Professor Ehrenfeld's tenure of office, he and the school were harrassed by the most embarrassing financial difficulties. In 1875, the State

Legislature had passed two bills, one appropriating \$50,000.00 and the other \$75,000.00 to the Normal Schools, and California had confidently looked forward to her share to liquidate pressing debts, but both bills were vetoed by Governor Hartrant, who added that he was still most friendly to the Normal Schools and that when the finances of the state permitted, he would be glad to aid them by his official act. But the governor's friendliness would not cancel bills long overdue, nor would it pay running expenses.

On September 4, 1876, the household committee made this report: "Your committee on Household beg leave to report that since our last meeting the Sheriff has sold all our household and kitchen furniture, including all articles owned and used by the Institution, also piano and organ, stoves and chairs belonging to the main building; said furniture and goods have been bought by John N. Dixon and others on their own account. Your committee recommends that you authorize us to arrange with said John N. Dixon and others, owners of said property, for the use of same, and the trustees pay a reasonable rent therefor. This was done and the rental agreed upon was \$100.00 per year. It developed later that "the others" was really one other Professor G. G. Hertzog.

The year 1877 opened most inauspiciously. The debt of \$25,000.00 in 1874 in less than three years increased to \$55,000.00, and on Jan. 12 Professor Ehrenfeld presented his resignation, to take effect February 1, he having been appointed financial secretary of the State Department of Public Education (he later became State Librarian). As we shall meet Professor Ehrenfeld again as acting principal and vice principal, we shall say *au revoir* instead of good bye.

On February 22, 1877, Professor G. P. Beard was elected principal to be paid \$1200.00 for the remainder of the school year, his salary thereafter to be \$1,500.00 per annum, providing the state appropriation to Normal Schools was passed. George Petrie Beard was born in Vermont, his ancestors coming from the lowlands of Scotland, near the birthplace of Robert Burns, in 1865, and they must have been most patriotic for it is recorded that eight of his ancestors fought in the battle of Lexington. Like his predecessor, Professor Beard had been educated for the ministry and was an ordained preacher of the Congregational Church. He had been principal of the Normal School at Shippensburg, Pa., coming there from a like position at the Normal School of Warrensburg, Missouri. He was perhaps as fine a specimen of the genus *homo* as is ever seen—tall, large, magnificent, a man to respect always, to feel affection for, seldom; but a school man of the greatest ability.

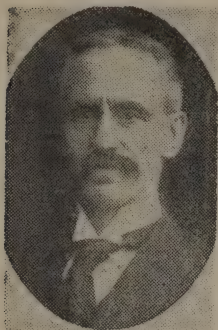
In 1878, one year after his election as principal, Professor Beard made this report to the State Superintendent: "The total number enrolled for the year of 1877-78 was 502, an increase over the previous year of 208. The number of graduates has also advanced from nine to twenty-two." Professor Beard also added this prophecy to this report: "If, in the good time coming, the state will relieve this school of debt, furnish and equip it fully, and then make tuition free to all professional students, and make it in fact what it is in name—a state school—I have every confidence in its progress and success." If the Professor sees down through the years and the veil, he knows how plainly he visualized the future.

Professor Beard was satisfied with the salary for the balance of the school year, but not with the salary for the future, so after much discussion, the Board agreed to Professor Beard's proposal: his salary to be \$1,680.00 per year, that he be permitted to occupy five rooms in South Dormitory, then nearing completion, and he board himself and family.

The newly elected principal and board of trustees entered into an agreement with the school directors of the borough to teach its pupils for the sum of \$200.00 per month for five months but that no teacher employed to teach the public school should receive more than \$40.00 per month. Then, as ever, it was a question of finance. Professor Ehrenfeld toward the end of 1877 presented his bill for \$1,100.00 unpaid salary but readily accepted \$800.00, giving a receipt in full. Springer and Anderson deducted \$2,875.00 from a bill of \$10,870.00 and asked that the reduction be used in liquidating the college debts. Many such incidents for lesser amounts occurred in our early history, and yet in December the finance committee reported \$750.00 yet needed to meet the state's bill for \$5,000.00 due the state the first of next month. The minutes of December 10, 1877, record that Mr. Dixon gave his personal check for this amount. The state appropriation of \$10,000.00 was also reported received at this meeting, but bills aggregating \$23,000.00 were also there to be met. The trustees decided to borrow \$5,000.00, to be paid when the next installment from the state was received. This is but a sample of practically every meeting of the board when its finances were under discussion, and as California had no banks at that time, a roll call of its notes would have been answered from Fairmont to Pittsburgh.

It was during Professor Beard's second year as principal that the P.V. and C.R.R. held a conference with the school regarding its right-of-way across the school's campus. The trustees felt that the mutilation of their grounds was unthinkable, urgently requesting the R.R. to reroute its course so as to avoid crossing their grounds, but the company insisted under its right of Eminent Domain to do as it wished, and the campus no longer extended to the river. Professor Hertzog recorded under date of February 3, 1879: "The committee to arrange with the Railroad reported that they had arranged that it should not come within 200 ft. of the buildings and that the Railroad agrees to put up obstructions so that cattle cannot come on the grounds.

In March, 1880, Professor Beard tendered his resignation as principal but at the earnest solicitation of the board and an increase in salary—\$1,800.00—he reconsidered his decision, remaining until 1883. Under his leadership the school had grown in numbers, efficiency, and reputation, and it was with real regret the school witnessed his going. He had accepted the principalship of a Normal School at Potsdam, N. Y., at a salary far in advance of any California could meet. Professor Beard returned but once to California, the occasion being the fourth Triennial Reunion and Banquet, June 26, 1911. Those who saw him said they could scarcely recognize the man they had known in the prime of his manhood in the frail, delicate man who had traveled from Knoxville, Tenn., to be present. But those who heard him said his mental powers were just as keen and his oratory just as eloquent. On the tenth of the following November he fell asleep to wake on the morning of eternity.



REV. THEODORE
BLAND NOSS

Principal 1883-1909

Professor Beard presented his resignation in April, 1883, saying he would terminate his relations with the school at the end of the school year, July 1, and at the April meeting of the board, Professor T. B. Noss was elected Professor Beard's successor, but at the May session the trustees were notified that the election was illegal, the by-laws of the school fixing the time of election the first Monday in July (this was later changed to the first Monday in June), and that the state trustees would be here on that date to fill the position.

In July the local and state trustees met for the purpose of electing the principal. Professor Beard and Noss were both nominated, but the former absolutely refused to be considered and Dr. Noss was chosen. For two men of such ability and vitality interested in the same work, there was scant affection between them. Professor Beard resented Professor Noss' application being presented at the same meeting as his resignation, and in his closing address to the trustees in June, Professor Hertzog's records that the principal reflected somewhat bitterly upon the course pursued by Professor Noss in the last few months. This was just as bitterly resented by the newly elected principal, who said Professor Beard had made no secret of his intention of leaving his portfolio here.

There was another exciting occurrence at this May meeting. As I remarked before, the stockholders voted for the state trustees, the state usually abiding by their decision. But at this time a man presented his credentials as a state trustee who had never been in nomination, much less elected by the stockholders. The meeting fairly seethed with indignation, but what could they do about it. So Dr. N. S. Veach, a local physician for nearly 60 years, became a member of the board. The state had made no mistake in its selection. Dr. Veach was a most efficient officer and so respected that he was later elected a local trustee, and was a member of the building committee that erected Science Hall.

Professor T. B. Noss was a Pennsylvanian by birth, born and reared in Juniata County. When 18 years of age his parents moved into the beautiful and historic Shenandoah Valley. After teaching a rural school in Maryland, he entered the Normal School at Shippensburg and upon his graduation was immediately elected principal of that town's high school. He later became a teacher at Dickinson Seminary while preparing himself for entrance into Syracuse University, graduating from that institution in 1879.

Professor Beard had known him from Shippensburg days and he invited the young teacher to come to California, and the minutes of June 10, 1880, read, "Committee on Instruction report that Professor Noss would serve the board as Vice Principal at a salary of \$60.00 per month and board. Not accepted. A motion then prevailed to pay Dr. Noss \$50.00 per month and board, with the title of Vice Principal," and from that date until February 28, 1909, his name and that of the school were so closely related as to be interchangeable. Like his two predecessors in office, Dr. Noss was a minister, being a licensed preacher of the M. E. Church. Assuming his new duties July 1, 1883, his first graduating class, numbering twenty-nine members, was that of 1884, of which Miss Anna Shutterly was a member. Miss Shutterly was a teacher in the Model School for

the year 1889-90 and on the latter date was elected Librarian, a position most competently filled by her for nearly forty years.

In the June election of teachers in 1884, the application of W. P. Dick as teacher of English was presented and upon the recommendation of the principal, he was elected. He arrived—the most perfect specimen of satorial elegance the school had ever seen, but it soon appeared he was not satisfied with being merely a teacher, he thought his abilities entitled him to aspire to the principalship. Not succeeding in his ambition he retaliated by accepting the position of Vice Principal of the Normal School at Lock Haven, of which school Professor Beard was now the head, he having remained at Potsdam but one year. The school survived Professor Dick's going, as it had before, has since, and doubtless will again, of the teacher possessed of a contempt complex regarding the school and the town, but found it harder to survive the loss of more than half of its graduating class, which Professor Dick took to Lock Haven with him. Coming so quickly upon Dr. Noss' election, there is no denying it was a body blow and one that would have proven fatal to a less sturdy and courageous man than the new principal.

In 1888 the school inaugurated a summer course in the principles and methods of teaching—this being a five week's term. The classes were composed of graduates of Normal Schools, and became highly popular. Instructors included Dr. Edward Brooks, Miss Patridge, Col. Parker, Dr. Palmer, Miss Coffin, and Dr. Maltby, names to conjure with in education at that time. Thus early in the school's existence the need for a summer school of methods was felt and provided for.

The next year, 1889, a young woman from Sweden, Elin Essolins, arrived in Pittsburgh, hoping to secure a position in the schools there as a teacher of Sloyd. Not thinking it feasible at that time to introduce a new department, Principal Luckey recommended her to Dr. Noss, who persuaded the trustees to elect her a teacher in the school. We were the first school in the state to adopt Sloyd as its method of manual training. The first two years I was a student of Miss Essolins in a small, unsuitable workshop, but the third year the shop was moved into Science Hall, which had been completed in 1872, and was considered one of the largest and best manual training rooms to be found anywhere. While there is no comparison possible between our work in Sloyd and the Department of Industrial Arts in the Teachers' College, it was considered a great innovation in 1890. The North Eastern Journal of Education, discussing this work at California, said, "There is no more successful introduction of this system in America." I might add that after the success of the system had been demonstrated here, Pittsburgh secured Miss Essolins by the simple, but effective method of offering her a larger salary.

The year 1889 Dr. and Mrs. Noss spent in Europe, his place here being ably filled by Vice Principal J. B. Smith. During his trip Dr. Noss visited Zurich, the birthplace of Pestalozzi and Yodon, etc., where for twenty years the great Swiss teacher conducted the school that gave him world wide fame, and where the principal met and talked with the great educator's only living pupil. In preparing this paper I read many letters from Dr. Noss, descriptive of Europe and Europe's schools, but I rather think had the Doctor written as flatteringly of Germany and her educational system thirty years later, we would not have appreciated

it as we did in 1889. In the State Teachers' Association held in Mauch Chunk, July, 1890, Dr. Noss' paper, "Is German Education Better Than Ours," caused heated discussion and the arguments pro and con flew thick, fast, and eloquent.

Four years later, 1894, Dr. Noss returned to Germany, pursuing special studies at the Universities of Berlin and Jena, his position here being filled by Professor Chas. L. Ehrenfeld, the school's first principal. Professor Ehrenfeld was teaching at Wittenberg, Ohio, College, when he received the invitation to come again to California, and after Dr. Noss' return from Europe, remained as Vice Principal and teacher of Latin and Greek until the close of the school year 1913. He died at York, Pa., January 31, 1914, aged 82 years. "So when a good man dies, for years beyond his ken the light he leaves behind, shines on the paths of men."

The year 1894 was a red letter one in the school's history. The gymnasium was completed this year at a cost of \$15,000.00 and was considered the last word in modernity, it containing the first water system installed in the school, with basin, tub and shower baths. Electricity was also used, though only for lights, this year. Prior to this time every catalog contained this information: "Board at above rates includes furnished room, heat and oil, students furnish their own lamps and towels."

The original plans of the building consisted of three separate units—the Main, North and South Dormitories, but this year the connections joining the dormitories to the main building were completed and were always spoken of as the "isthmuses." The front extension on the main building was also constructed, the arched entrance extending beyond the towers adding much to the appearance of the building, so they said, but to many of us the beauty and simple dignity of the original plans have never been enhanced by painting an eyebrow here or tying a necktie there.

There was another concession to the spirit of the "Gay Nineties" three years later. This was the construction of a ten-foot bicycle track encircling the entire campus, graded and inlaid with fine cinders. This track was always given special mention in all school catalogs and advertisements until 1903, when the bicycle went the way of the oil and lamp. But the track remained, depressing as a mourning band, until 1930, when Dr. Steele had it removed.

In addition to building the bicycle track, there was also added this same year, 1897, the extensions on both dormitories. These additions include the rooms used by Dr. Steele in South Dormitory, and the Colonial and guest rooms, etc., in North Dormitory.

The construction of the boiler house and laundry in 1899 added another to the campus buildings.

After much discussion and negotiations, the school succeeded in purchasing, in 1900, a plot of ground 500x350 ft. adjoining the campus on the east, which was converted into an athletic field and enclosed by a solid board fence eight ft. high, giving it, somewhat, the appearance of the steel mills at Homestead during the strike of 1892.

If you will look in the catalog of 1903, you will find inserted between pages 34-35 a replica of a program which reads, "Normal Chapel, California, Pennsylvania, Tuesday Evening, March 3, at 8 P.M., Popular Program, The Pittsburgh Orchestra, Victor Herbert Conductor, Soloist L. Von Kunits, Violinist, All seats reserved at \$1.00." Tickets were sold here, Coal Center, Charleroi, Monessen, Donora, and Monongahela, a special train leaving for Pittsburgh at 11 p.m. On the opposite page is a picture of Hon. W. J. Bryan photographed in the library.

The last building to be erected before we became the property of the state was Dixon Hall, begun in 1906 and finished in 1907. There was, perhaps, more opposition to this action than any previously encountered in the schools existence. The treasury was a duplicate of Mother Hubbard's Cupboard, and the school's indebtedness was steadily increasing, and when the building was completed the state held a mortgage of \$139,500.00 against the institution, in addition to bonds of \$40,000.00 and unpaid bills of \$50,000.00. There can be no doubt that Dr. Noss suffered physically as well as mentally from the labor and worry of this last building achievement and for this reason made, what was to be his last trip to Europe, remaining thirteen months, studying at the Sorbonne and the Universities of Paris and Heidelberg. Upon Dr. Noss' return the relations of the principal, trustees, and directors were strained to put it mildly. The meetings of the board of trustees were marked by charges, counter charges and bitter recriminations, often ending in open hostility. Upon more than one occasion the short and ugly was passed and the peace dove was evidently not homing at California Normal. The school directors of the borough were in open rebellion and declared that unless they be allowed to nominate and elect the teachers for the Model School they would withdraw their pupils and make other arrangements for their education. With the finances of the school in such utter demoralization the loss of the tuition paid by the borough meant ruin for the school—this amount being nearly equal to the state appropriation—so the trustees, interpreting rightly the writing on the wall, agreed with Mr. Dixon, its president, that the privilege of choosing the teachers for the public school should be vested entirely in the borough school directors, thus ending a disagreement extending over three decades.

Dr. Noss died in Chicago on February 28, 1909, of pneumonia, and the public memorial exercises held in the Chapel on Tuesday morning, March 2, were, perhaps, the largest and most impressive ever witnessed by California. I could fill pages with the eulogies pronounced by many friends and those who had known him educationally, but will quote briefly from the tribute of Wm. Jennings Bryan, thrice candidate for president of the United States. Mr. Bryan had lectured here some years prior to Dr. Noss' death and had been the guest of the principal and Mrs. Noss, at that time. Being in the community on a lecture tour, he attended the funeral services and was invited to address those gathered for farewell. Mr. Bryan said: "We mortals are prone to measure a man by what he gets out of this world. God measures a man by what he puts into the world. I would rather leave behind me the memory that Dr. Noss leaves than any monument measured by money. Professor Noss builded day by day a monument which will outlast any monument of crumbling granite, and his influence, like

the influence of all who develop the welfare of his fellowmen, shall be eternal." Eight days later, Mar. 10, Mr. Bryan gave his lecture, "The Prince of Peace," in the Normal Chapel and in remembrance of him who had so lately passed this way, quoted Longfellow's "There is no death, What seems so is transition. This life of mortal breath is but a suburb of the life elysian, whose portal we call death."

On March 2, the board of trustees appointed John D. Meese, a teacher in the school for eighteen years, and editor of the Normal Review for half that time, also, treasurer of the board of trustees, acting principal for four months, or until time for the regular election, July 1, 1909. On that date Dr. H. B. Davis was elected Dr. Noss' successor, remaining in that capacity until the close of school year 1912. I am sorry that the only knowledge I can offer of Dr. Davis is what I gather from the minutes of the three years he was head of the school here. In the May 3, 1911, meeting of the board, this is recorded (I copy verbatim): "Dr. Davis, through the Secretary, made request that the president and secretary be empowered to sign the application blank for a permanent certificate issued for him by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. On motion the president and secretary were authorized to sign this application."

At this same meeting the election of three state trustees was held and the votes being counted, the tellers made the following report: L. W. Morgan, 67 votes; Jos. A. Herron, 67 votes; Capt. J. K. Billingsley, 67 votes; C. A. Dorsey, 5 votes, James Curran, 5 votes; Chas L. Snowdon, 0 votes.

As I remarked, the state usually abided by the vote of the stockholders, but at the June meeting, those presenting state credentials were Herron, Billingsley, and Snowdon, which goes to show you can't always tell whether your partner will trump your ace or not.

There was prepared, at this meeting of the board, by Senator W. E. Crow, a member of the board, Hon. Frank Craven, business manager of the school, and Dr. Davis, a bill requesting an appropriation of \$130,000.00 from the state, to liquidate debts, to make needed repairs, for the erection of a Recitation Hall, and to purchase additional ground for the enlargement of the campus. But the state evidently thought we didn't know what we wanted, for the financial report of 1911 credits the state with an appropriation of \$10,000.00.

Upon the retirement of John N. Dixon as president of the board of trustees, George M. Mitchell had been elected to fill that vacancy. The feeling between Dr. Davis and Mr. Mitchell was not that popularly supposed to exist between Damon and Pythias, and when the question of Dr. Davis' reelection came before the board in June, 1911, Mr. Mitchell called the Vice President to the chair and took the floor in opposition to the principal's reelection, and if you wish

to know how to say what you don't want, you might read the minutes of June 7, 1911. Then happened one of those things. Mr. Herrod, Chairman of Instruction and Discipline, gave the Committee's report of teachers, salaries, and hours of teaching. This list contained the name of Dr. Davis, and the report was accepted by a majority of the board. Professor Hertzog adds: "Although not formally stated this action was understood to carry with it the election of Dr. Davis as Principal of the School. It was not only understood but did, as he remained head of the Institution another year.

In 1910 the Legislature passed what was known as the "New School Code," one article of which provided for the purchase of the Normal Schools by the State, and in July, 1911, the board formally decided to make the necessary preparations for this transfer, they being assured, if this were done, California would be the first school to be taken over by the Commonwealth. The board knew if the state did not buy our school or increase our appropriation that it must cease to function. Its liabilities were over a quarter of a million dollars with paper assets of \$400,000.00, but these assets were not money nor could money be raised on them for anything like their value.

In October, 1911, Mr. Mitchell presented his resignation as president of the board of trustees, giving two reasons for his action—first, the antagonism between the principal of the school and himself, second, the election of a teacher whom he considered unfit. The board refused to consider his resignation and one of the reasons why will show how precarious the financial status of the school was: "A second point emphasized was that for Mr. Mitchell to retire at this juncture, when we have fallen behind financially might seriously cripple the school by causing money lenders to hesitate in giving future loans." The year 1911 had shown a large financial deficit; in addition to borrowing \$16,400.00, the boarding department loss was \$10,000.00 and Dr. Davis thought best to employ an expert accountant to go over our books, so that in the event of our becoming state property our accounts would not be found wanting. In February, 1912, the secretary of the State Department of Education wrote for information necessary to formulate plans for the purchase, and a little later members of the State Board of Education visited the school and reported in favor of State ownership. There was another financial loss imminent. The public school of the borough was erecting a building on the site of the Old Academy of second epoch days, and after June, 1913, would no longer pay its tuition into the Normal School. It became apparent and imperative there be some reduction in expenses until we became the property of the state, and in June, 1912, the Department of Physical Culture and Commercial Training were discontinued. The next month Dr. Davis presented his resignation, he having been elected to a like position in the Pittsburgh Training School for Teachers, and the same month, July 17, 1912, Professor Walter Scott Hertzog, son of Professor G. G. Hertzog, receiving an unanimous vote, became principal, his inauguration day, held October 15, 1912, being one of the high spots in the annals of the school. His Excellency, Governor John K. Tener was guest of honor, the lesser celebrities being Senator W. E. Crow (later U. S. Senator) of the class of 1890, Supt. Samuel Hamilton, Supt. of the Pittsburgh Schools, Hon. Henry Houck, Secretary of Internal Affairs, and Hon. J. A. Berkey of Somerset.



PRINCIPAL W. S. HERTZOG
1912-1919

Professor W. S. Hertzog was an alumnus of the school here of the class of 1891 and after teaching two years in this county he entered Hiram College, graduating in 1897. That same year he returned here as a critic teacher for a few months but resigned to accept the principalship of the Beaver Falls High School, remaining there four years. The year 1901-02 he spent in Europe as a student in the University of Leipsic and upon his return accepted a position in Bethany College, but the next year returned to California and for five years served as Professor of Mathematics. From 1907-1912 he was High School Inspector in the State Department of Public Instruction, leaving that post to become California's principal, remaining in that capacity

until 1919. Aside from Professor Hertzog's undeniable scholarship, he was one of the ablest orators the school ever had. I quote from his inaugural address: "Standing upon an eminence in the city of London is St. Paul's Cathedral, planned and completed by the great architect Sir Christopher Wren. Near the tomb, upon a plain marble tablet, is the inscription: 'Si monumentum quaeris, cir cumspice', if you seek my monument look around you. This institution is the most elaborate monument which perpetuates the memory of its founders. Wiser than they knew, enduring sacrifices greater than we can appreciate, they laid the foundation, broad and deep, upon which we stand and upon which we build. They rendered great service to the state and community—they were men of vision, who could see beyond the difficulties and defeats to the possibilities and victories of the future. No oath of office is required on this occasion, but I pledge myself to work with you, the faculty, the students, the trustees, and the state, to make the next chapter in the history of this great Institution worthy of the sacrifices, labors, and ideals of its leaders in the past."

There were two very important events during Professor Hertzog's principalship that had a momentous effect on the school—its purchase by the state in 1914, and the World War. Very early in 1913 the State Legislature appropriated \$400,000.00 for the purchase of the Normal Schools, and California immediately secured the necessary legal talent to consummate our purchase. Accordingly, the stockholders met May 20, 1913, to vote for or against accepting the state's proposition of assuming the indebtedness of the school and paying \$25,000.00 for the institution, \$2,500.00 of this amount to be paid the stockholders for their stock. The arguments pro and con were lengthy and heated, but the chief objection was the price offered for the stock by the state, but when these liabilities were presented—capital stock, \$16,000.00; mortgage to state, \$112,000.00; mortgages to individuals, \$14,000.00; bonds, \$39,700.00; bills payable, \$66,400.00; checks unpaid, \$10,958.00—it instantly appeared there was nothing to do but accept



VICE PRIN. FRANK M. FIELD
1913-1919

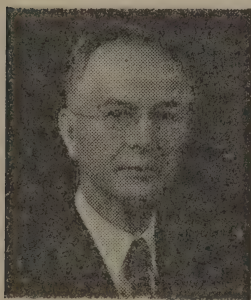
the state's terms. When, at last, the vote was taken, it resulted in 442 votes for and 2 against the sale. A tentative agreement was drawn up between the school and the state and delivered to Harrisburg for confirmation, objection or correction, and in the July meeting the business manager, Mr. Craven, reported that Mr. Becht, State Department of Education, and Governor Tener had both expressed themselves in favor of the purchase of this school, but for some reason the Governor was slow in giving his approval to the bill passed by both houses, appropriating the \$400,000.00 for purchasing the Normal Schools.

While war clouds dark and ominous were shadowing Europe, financial clouds of ebony blackness were darkening California Normal. The Public School of the Borough had left to occupy its new building and the school tried to secure enough pupils from East Pike Run Township for a Model School but was not successful, and in May, 1913, the trustees were compelled to offer free tuition to 100 pupils for the different grades of the training school. The household department showed a deficit of \$12,000.00 and upon a reduction of salary, the Business Manager resigned, and as early as May in the school year the board was compelled to borrow \$5,000.00, pledging, in payment, receipts at the opening of the school term. September 1 of the next year, Professor Hertzog noted that it was the first time in the school's history when to meet the expenses of any year a draft was made upon the anticipated receipts of the succeeding year. So anxious was the school to have the state assume its financial difficulties that at a called meeting of the board in August, 1913, another representation was sent to Harrisburg to speed negotiations. But the mills of the Gods grind slowly, and in September, Professor Hertzog records that our attorney, Mr. Vance, had taken all our minute books for state inspection except the one now in use and that he now makes request for that also. Needless to say he got it. In December, Attorney Vance appeared to explain the law's delay. He said that part of the New School Code regarding the sale of Normal Schools was under fire and that there was nothing to do but to possess our souls in patience. But in January, 1914, all banks holding notes against us accepted mortgages on the school until paid by the state, and February 17 the agreement with the state was concluded, signed and sealed and later approved by Governor Tener, and Mr. Colvin and Professor Hertzog were authorized the next month to execute the deed to be delivered to the Commonwealth and attach our seal. This deed was drawn by the Potter Title & Trust Company of Pittsburgh, and May 7, 1914 (40 years to the month since our recognition), the formal transfer was completed, the only formality yet to be consummated was the dissolution of the Corporation of the South Western State Normal School. On October 20, 1914, the stockholders met for the last time, and with a feeling akin to that felt at the final closing of a casket, voted unanimously for dissolution and petitioned the Court of Common Pleas of Washington County accordingly. The Court granted their petition and each stockholder received \$4.00 for each share of stock owned by him, the par value of which had been \$25.00. Professor Beard's prophecy had materialized—it was a State School in fact, as well as in name.

When the State paid the Trustees of the California Normal School \$25,000.00 for all interest in our school here, Professor W. S. Hertzog was Principal of the school, having been elected in 1912. Professor W. S. Hertzog was pre-

eminently one of the best school men in the state, and he certainly had his work cut out for him at California Normal. The Public School had been taken away from the Normal in 1913, and this not only affected the school financially, but the Training School as well, as there were no children for the Model School and it became necessary to pay pupils from East Pike Run Township to fill up our Model School. But Professor Hertzog handled the matter very diplomatically and with as little commotion as it was humanly possible.

Professor Hertzog was still Principal when the first World War hit us, taking practically all the young men from our Normal School until the school resembled nothing so much as a Young Ladies Seminary. Then came one of the unpleasant features in our school life under Professor Hertzog. The flu epidemic of 1917-18 struck us, as if the war were not enough, and it was proposed to use the Normal School as a hospital for victims of the flu. The State and Professor Hertzog, too, violently opposed this, as it would have been impossible to keep the school running with a school and a hospital of contagious disease in the same building. This caused a great deal of ill feeling—more than you would think for now—against Professor Hertzog, and the school trustees as well, and in the end, the Public School, up at the corner of 5th and Liberty, was closed and it was used as a hospital. The feeling against the Normal School and its Principal became strained, to say the least, and in 1918 Professor Hertzog presented his resignation.



DR. ROBERT M. STEELE
President

Professor Hertzog was succeeded by John Alvin Entz, who, at the time, was a teacher in the school. Professor Entz was also a good school man, and he entered upon the school under rather difficult circumstances. He remained as Principal until 1928. During that time, as at present, the school had a new breath of life after the close of first World War, and it was during Professor Entz's tenure of office that our school had its largest enrollment, in 1923 and 1924, when our school numbered 2400 pupils. Part of this enrollment was an Extension School, which was carried out at Somerset, which enrolled practically 1,000 pupils. But the state had higher ideas about

the school at this time, wanting to make it not a Normal School but a State Teachers College with the power of conferring Bachelor Degrees, and we would need, it seemed, a new Principal, and in 1928 Dr. Robert M. Steele, who was at the time Principal of Clarion State Normal School, was persuaded to take over the job here, and the next year, in May of 1929, we graduated our first class as California Teachers College, and at that time we conferred our first Bachelor Degrees.

The years 1926 to 1928 and 1929 marked the close of the period of transformation of the State Normal Schools of Pennsylvania into State Teachers Colleges. California was the last school of the fourteen to make adjustments so that the requirements could be met. On May 3, 1928, a special committee of the Board of Trustees reported that the Superintendent of Public Instruction had approved the program set up by the Board of Trustees which was designed to meet the requirements for four year degree granting status.

About this time, Dr. John Entz submitted his resignation as Principal. In accepting the resignation, the Board of Trustees voted a two months' vacation with pay to begin June 1, 1928.

A committee consisting of H. D. Freeland, Lee Smith, and Owen Brownfield was appointed to select and recommend to the Board a new principal. This committee conferred with the Superintendent of Public Instruction, John A. H. Kieth, and visited Robert M. Steele at the Clarion State Teachers College. At the invitation of the special committee, Dr. Steele met with the Board of Trustees on May 17th to consider the position. Pending his decision as to the acceptance of the principalship and during the absence of Principal Entz, the Board designated Harry L. Kriner as Acting Principal. Dr. Kriner served as Acting Principal during the month of May and for the first part of June, since Dr. Steele had accepted the position and agreed to take charge of the work by June 15th.

During this period, in addition to the many staff and personnel problems faced by the Board of Trustees, a disagreement arose as to the location of a laboratory school building, funds for which had been allocated. State authorities, impatient to have work started, sent engineers to stake out the location of the proposed building. This they proceeded to do and located the building immediately to the rear of Dixon Hall and within approximately fifty feet of that building. The new Principal, on his arrival for a board meeting on June 7th, discovered to his amazement that the front entrance of the proposed new building would be scarcely fifty feet from the back door of the kitchen. At the meeting in the afternoon of June 7th, the Board of Trustees decided that Dr. Steele should go to Harrisburg and announce to Superintendent Kieth that the Board refused to accept the location established and proposed the purchase of property adjacent to the campus and the location of the new building there.

The meeting with the Superintendent of Public Instruction was somewhat heated, Superintendent Kieth finally agreeing that if an option on a suitable plot could be obtained by 12 o'clock noon that same day, he, the Superintendent, would go with Dr. Steele to a meeting of the State Council of Education at 2 o'clock that afternoon and recommend the Council's approval of the purchase. At that time, purchases could be made directly by the trustees, provided such purchases were specifically approved by the State Council of Education.

The Principal called Owen Brownfield and announced the Superintendent's proposal to him. This occurred about 9 A.M. and Mr. Brownfield hurried to California, got in touch with Mr. Samuel Barnum, secured the option and telephoned Dr. Steele at Harrisburg. At a few minutes past 12 o'clock, Dr. Keith was informed about the option and at 2 o'clock the two men appeared before the State Council of Education. This body promptly approved the purchase of the Barnum garden and there, on a plot approximately 150' x 166', the foundation of the Theodore B. Noss Demonstration School was staked out.

The erection of the Laboratory School on this location meant that it was completely surrounded by land not owned by the college and access to which was gained only by alleys. Flushed with the success of its first venture in land purchase, application was made for the approval of the purchase of all of the tracts of land lying to the north and west of the Barnum property and including

the remainder of the Barnum property which had formerly been the Noss home. The proposed purchase included thirteen dwellings as follows. William Laschen Estate, property of Mike Matsko, property of William Hassen, property of Laight Heirs, property of Mike Boncarouski, property of Roman Tuday, property of Nick Boncarouski, Barnum Estate. The total cost of the Theodore B. Noss Demonstration School was \$133,542.

With excellent cooperation from the State, a comprehensive program of improvement and repairs was undertaken. New toilets and showers in North Hall were provided, the refrigeration system was overhauled, walks built, wooden steps replaced by concrete, vaults constructed for proper safeguarding of funds and protection of records. The heating plant, which had been partially destroyed by fire, was rebuilt. Maintenance equipment and machinery were procured and many fire hazards removed in existing buildings.

In addition to fixed improvements of the plant, arrangements were made by faculty members for leaves of absence to reach the required standard of preparation. New staff members were needed and chosen.

Inspection by the State Council of Education indicated that the prescribed standards had been met and on June 4, 1928, the Council granted to California the right to offer a four year curriculum in Elementary Education, leading to a B. S. Degree. On December 7, 1928, the same privilege was extended to the Secondary field. On May 28, 1929, fourteen students received degrees and the name of the school became officially the State Teachers College at California. By the same authority, the title of Principal was changed to President. The members of this graduating class were:

Clarence Bane	Fredericktown, Pa.	Eloise Hunt	California, Pa.
Ferdinand Black	N. Pine Grove, Pa.	Milton Luce	Perryopolis, Pa.
Mrs. Alice M. Blose	California, Pa.	William Mitchell	Passaic, N. J.
Amalia Bugelli	Belle Vernon, Pa.	Edna Pipes	Donora, Pa.
Mrs. Alyce Connell	California, Pa.	Kenneth Slosky	California, Pa.
William A. Crombie	California, Pa.	Thomas A. Smith	Smithton, Pa.
Leondas Hopkins	Coal Center, Pa.	David Weaver	Lock No. 4, Pa.

Once the location of the Demonstration School building was settled, the Board of Trustees proceeded with the construction of the building. The general contract was awarded to the F. D. Beyers Company of Tyrone, who also secured contracts to construct similar buildings over the same plans at Clarion, Slippery Rock, and Lock Haven. Throughout the state, six almost identical laboratory or demonstration schools were constructed.

After work of construction had started, it became evident to the Board that the inspector employed by the State was incompetent. Report of this fact was made to the Bureau of Construction, Department of Property and Supplies, who condemned the work already done and required the Board to reject the brick which had been selected and select brick which could be laid to meet state specifications. The minutes record stormy scenes during which architect, state representative, contractor, and the brick manufacturer battled for a month until a decision was reached. The work already laid was torn down, a new brick selected, and the contractor paid \$2,500 for his extra labor.

During the same time, great efforts were exerted by the Board of Trustees as a whole and by individuals in improving the physical plant and in planning for the future.

Realizing the necessity of additional land, the minutes of May 28, July 21, and September 19, 1928, indicate the Board's effort to purchase eight separate properties adjoining the campus and a resolution is recorded in the minutes of July 21, 1928:

"Resolved that the new building (Demonstration School) be located to the north of the Barnum house and facing the present group of buildings. All properties described above to be acquired by purchase or condemnation, and located in such a way as to permit the development of the physical plant in the form of a quadrangle."

The Principal was instructed to proceed as rapidly as funds could be secured to improve the buildings and procure additional instructional facilities. The first step here was to apply for and obtain from the State Insurance Fund money enough to rebuild the heating plant, the upper part of which had been destroyed by fire. The lower part of the structure housed the boilers and the second floor was used as a laundry. Very soon after the fire, a separate laundry building had been built. In rebuilding the heating plant, brick walls and concrete floor were used. Thus, the sorry spectacle of a blackened and charred wreck was removed and the present maintenance shop was made possible.

To replace the unsanitary toilet rooms in the then gymnasium (now Vulcan Hall), Mr. Brownfield prevailed on Doctor Keith, Superintendent of Public Instruction, to allocate \$10,000 to construct modern sanitary facilities in the basement of North Hall. This project was completed in 1929.

Mr. Joseph A. Herron, President of the Board, secured from the J. B. Findly Estate a grant of \$2,500 for library books and reference material. This was the first of a series of similar gifts to the library from the same source.

To provide safety and convenience in storing cash and records—financial and scholastic—vaults were built, utilizing two old circular stair wells which had been installed as fire exits from the auditorium on the floor above. These were located in the towers at the front of the building.

Dilapidated wood steps were replaced with concrete. Walks were added. Fence was erected around the campus, much to the displeasure of faculty members and students who had worn paths diagonally across the campus, making a short cut to the corner. There was similar reaction on the part of some members of the faculty and townspeople when work began on removing a cinder running track which surrounded the campus of that day. This track was approximately twelve feet wide and composed of a deep bed of cinders packed hard by running feet, but much more so in later years by Model T's driven by lovelorn swains of the community. A wide variety of horns could be heard almost any time, day or night, as these motor Romeos vied with each other in attempting to attract the attention of the young women students.

Hundreds of loads of ashes were removed and equal hundreds of loads of new soil were required to take the place of the ashes. Then grass and shrubbery began to take the place of the unsightly running track.

The end of the college year of 1928-29 found improvements made or under contract amounting to over \$175,000 and plans were outlined and approved by the Board of Trustees providing for the next twenty years of development.

One of the most significant of these plans had to do with the broadening of the scope of the curriculum. A survey of the areas of teacher preparation which were left unfilled in Pennsylvania convinced the authorities that California could best serve the interests of the state at large but more especially the southwestern section and the industrial region served by the college by the preparation of Industrial Arts teachers. At this time the high schools and junior high schools of Pennsylvania depended on Carnegie Institute of Technology for industrial arts teachers. Due to scarcity and the small number produced by Tech and the few that could be induced to come to Pennsylvania from Michigan and New York, it was almost impossible to secure teachers of industrial arts. The high schools were forced to offer purely academic courses and thus increase the number of boys and girls that dropped out because of the two main hurdles to graduation from high school—latin and algebra.

The minutes of May 23, 1929, carry the following paragraph:

The future development of the college so as to best serve the needs of the district was discussed. On motion by Mrs. Joseph A. Herron, seconded by Mr. J. Olan Yarnall, the Board voted to place itself on record as convinced that the establishment of a course for the preparation of Industrial Arts teachers was vital for the proper progress of the public schools in this district. The President was directed to take the matter up with the State authorities and use every possible effort to secure the necessary authority to meet this need.

Application was made to the State Council of Education for the approval of a four year course in Industrial Arts at California. News of this application for the new field found its way to other state teachers colleges and a spirited campaign developed—several colleges seeking the course. The President of California was called to the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and offered instead, a four year course in the preparation of teacher-librarians. This he promptly refused on the grounds first that the library field was fully covered by the Carnegie Library School in Pittsburgh and second that the book collection and the physical facilities were inadequate to provide proper training in library work.

When a report was made to the trustees on the status of the application for industrial arts, Mr. Kerfoot W. Daly, a member of the board, was appointed to work with Doctor Steele in securing support from business and industry. Mr. Daly spent much time in explaining the project to leaders in business, industry and finance. He asked these leaders to write letters to Dr. John A. H. Keith indicating their indorsement and approval of the industrial arts course at California. These letters were to be ready to send to Harrisburg when the appropriate time

was indicated. The president learned through undisclosed sources that the State Superintendent was about to make a decision between Indiana and California for the new curriculum. Since Doctor Keith had been the president of Indiana before assuming the state superintendency and was believed to favor that college, Mr. Daly thought the "appropriate time" had arrived and by telephone urged his friends to "cut loose with everything you have."

Not more than two weeks after this State Superintendent Keith showed Doctor Steele a huge folder in which he—Doctor Keith—said he believed there was a letter from every industrial leader and every politician in southwestern Pennsylvania urging upon him the assignment of the industrial arts curriculum to California.

Doctor Keith went on to say that these men did not stop with merely urging the assignment to California but many of them expressed the belief that the provision of teachers for general industrial subjects would greatly improve the public schools of the state and furnish relief from overemphasis on purely academic subjects in junior and senior high schools especially in industrial southwestern Pennsylvania.

Dr. Keith highly commended the work done by Mr. Daly and informed Doctor Steele that he would recommend the approval of the industrial arts curriculum at California.

With approval of the industrial arts four year curriculum by the State Council of Education plans for the new department took shape. Shriver L. Coover, an outstanding teacher and recognized leader in industrial arts, was selected to head the department. Announcements were sent out and a small group of students enrolled. It was a shock to the president and the board of trustees to learn on April 8, 1930, that the paltry sum of \$5,500 had been allocated toward the expenses of the new department for the two year period 1930 to 1932. It was decided to use part of the basement of Dixon Hall for an industrial arts shop. Only the most essential machines and equipment were bought and much of the equipment was designed and made by Mr. Coover and his class.

The first class to complete the course and receive degrees in 1933 included: Thomas Campbell, California, Pa.; Carlisle Agnew, Beaver Falls, Pa., and Jules Bertin, Point Marion, Pa.

Since that small beginning 539 men and women have been graduated. These are to be found in instructional and administrative positions in universities, colleges and public schools throughout Pennsylvania and neighboring states.

The department has outgrown its quarters in Dixon basement, in Vulcan Hall and Science Hall, and is now bursting the seams of a fine new Industrial Arts Building built in 1938. This is considered one of the most complete and best planned of its kind in the country. It provides laboratories, classrooms, offices, store rooms, a reference library, and shop facilities for printing, wood-working, painting, machine shop, sheetmetal, forging, welding, auto mechanics, electricity, plastics, ceramics, and graphic arts.

Numerically the department of industrial arts at California is now the largest department in the United States devoting itself exclusively to industrial arts.

A BUILDING PROGRAM PROPOSED

In 1929 money was allocated for a new gymnasium and the Board of Trustees gave serious thought to a logical program of plant development. While plans were being made for the construction of this building, several meetings were given to discussion of the buildings needed and the most favorable location for each. At the same time, the newly acquired campus property was being cleared of houses and adjoining buildings of all descriptions. Thirty-six dwellings were dismantled or removed to new locations by their purchasers, some of whom had bought these buildings at auction at now amazing prices ranging from \$15 to \$100.

It was agreed that new buildings, particularly class rooms, should be located as far from the railroad as possible and that they should be located around the sides of a quadrangle. Accordingly, the gymnasium was located on Third Street, about midway between the eastern boundary and the building line of the group of older buildings—Dixon, South, Main, and North Halls.

The minutes of a meeting on January 7, 1930, record the Board's program for future development:

BUILDING PROGRAM RECOMMENDED

1. Future buildings should be placed as far from the railroad as the property of the college will allow.
2. New buildings should be located so as to provide open campus space.
3. Estimating the needs for the college over a period of ten to fifteen years the following buildings appear necessary:
 - a. Gymnasium—main unit.
 - b. Gymnasium—second unit including swimming pool.
 - c. Power House to be located between the railroad and the river.
 - d. Men's Dormitory.
 - e. Extension of Dixon Hall
 - First floor to include extension of dining room and social rooms.
 - Second and third floors to include dormitory rooms for girls.
 - f. Recitation Building (continuation of gymnasium group)
 - g. Junior High School Demonstration Building.

Minutes of meeting of January 7, 1930, continued:

Mr. Smith pointed out the need of adequate social rooms for the proper development of the school life and urged that as soon as possible provision be made to extend Dixon Hall or in some other way provide adequate social rooms for the use of the college.

Funds allocated for the gymnasium proved to be inadequate to construct the size and type of building desired. Accordingly, only the central or *main* part was contained in the contract for construction. It was considered advisable that furnishing of the locker and shower rooms be deferred until additional funds could be secured. In this way, all money available at the time could be put into the building itself and, thus, more space would be provided than would be possible if money for furnishings were taken out of the sum allocated.

The naming of the building is described in the minutes of a meeting held February 26, 1931:

The Board then discussed the naming of the new Gymnasium building. Mr. Freeland presented the following motion that in view of the long period of interest in and service to the State Teachers College at California it was fitting that the Physical Education Building be named "Herron Hall" in honor of the Chairman of the Board, Mr. Joseph A. Herron. The motion was seconded by Mr. Daly, and placed before the Board by the Vice-Chairman, Mr. Freeman, and carried unanimously, Mr. Herron not voting. It was suggested by Mr. Freeland that the President explain to the student body the Board's reason for the naming of the new building, directing particularly the work of the Chairman of the Board be pointed out to the student body.

The plaque on the original part of Herron Hall is inscribed as follows:

HERRON HALL

PHYSICAL EDUCATION BUILDING

NAMED IN HONOR OF HONORABLE JOSEPH A. HERRON

IN RECOGNITION OF MORE THAN THIRTY YEARS OF

UNSELFISH SERVICE AS A MEMBER OF THE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MAIN UNIT

ERECTED 1930

JOHN S. FISHER
Governor of the Commonwealth
BENSON E. TAYLOR
Secretary of Property and Supplies
JOHN A. H. KEITH
Superintendent of Public Instruction

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JOSEPH A. HERRON
President
H. D. FREELAND
Vice President
J. OLAN YARNALL
Secretary

WINGS

ERECTED 1932

GIFFORD PINCHOT
Governor of the Commonwealth
JAMES F. MALONE
Secretary of Property and Supplies
JAMES N. RULE
Superintendent of Public Instruction

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JOSEPH A. HERRON
President
ALVARO B. COBER
Vice President
ELIZABETH H. MORGAN
Secretary

ALVARO B. COBER
 MRS. THOMAS S. CRAGO
 KERFOOT W. DALY
 W. M. LILLEY
 BELA B. SMITH
 S. E. TAYLOR

DAVID M. MCCLOSKEY
 F. J. MCCUE
 LEE SMITH
 S. E. TAYLOR
 WILBUR VAN BREMEN
 J. M. WALTON

ROBERT M. STEELE
 President of the College

EMIL R. JOHNSON and CLARENCE F. WILSON, Architects

The main unit was erected in 1930 and two wings, one at each end of the main building, each wing furnishing the equivalent of four class rooms, were added in 1932.

Thus, the first two new buildings were erected and named by the Board of Trustees, the first, or Training School Building, being named for the distinguished educator who served California for twenty-six years as its Principal. The bronze tablet in this building carries the inscription prepared by Doctor E. W. Chubb and is as follows:

To
 THEODORE BLAND NOSS, PH.D.
 PRINCIPAL
 SOUTH WESTERN
 STATE NORMAL SCHOOL
 1883-1909
 A FEARLESS AND PROGRESSIVE
 LEADER OF MEN
 AN ENTHUSIASTIC TEACHER
 A CULTURED SCHOLAR
 A CHRISTIAN GENTLEMAN
 A SYMPATHETIC FRIEND AND
 AN UNDYING INSPIRATION TO THE
 THOUSANDS WHO KNEW
 AND LOVED HIM
 THIS BUILDING IS DEDICATED IN
 GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE
 MAY 24, 1930
 THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

CALIFORNIA'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CALIFORNIA SCHOOLS SHOW RAPID GROWTH IN 35 YEARS MODERN PLANT LOCATED IN COMMUNITY

By David G. Button, Secretary

The growth of a schools system from a small elementary institution into one of the most modern and complete instruction centers has been recorded right here in California Borough in the last 35 years.

Related with this growth of the California borough school district was its close association and cooperation with the former California Normal School and now California State Teachers College.

Many years, the normal school served in lieu of a high school here, students upon completing the eighth grade entering the normal school where they received training similar to that now dispensed in a high school.

But with each year, the need of advanced training grew and finally the standards for teacher training were raised in the state, making it necessary for the borough to establish its own high school.

In September, 1914, the high school was first opened. It had two graduates. Compare that figure with those in the schools system now. Below is a copy of the first high school commencement exercises.

HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1915

8:00 O'clock

PROGRAM

1. Violin Solo—"Souvenir" ----- *Drdla*
MISS ESTHER MARIE HAVEKOTTE
2. Oration—"Heroism" ----- JOSEPH TUCKER
3. Vocal Solo—"The Horn" ----- *Flegier*
MR. DAVID EWING
4. Valedictory—"The Inefficiency of Modern
Civilization" ----- THEODORE PHILLIPS
5. Violin Solo—"Caprice Viennois" ----- *Kreisler*
MISS ESTHER MARIE HAVEKOTTE
6. Commencement Address—"A New Vision"
PROF. W. ESPEY ALBING
7. Vocal Solo—"Hear Me Ye Winds and Waves"
Handel, from Scipio
MR. DAVID EWING
8. Presentation of Diplomas ----- PRIN. ROBERT P. FELGAR
9. Violin Solo—"Hejre Kati" ----- *Hubay*
MISS ESTHER MARIE HAVEKOTTE

There are a total of 1499 students in California community, 343 attending senior high, 355 junior, 733 grade schools and 68 at the kindergarten.

Quoting from an old history of California Public Schools:

"The doors were opened in September, 1914, under the supervision of Mr. Robert E. Fulgar, principal. Messrs. Piper, Weaver and Dewar were members of the board of directors at that time.

Miss Jane Johnson, Miss Dora Dewar, two home town girls, together with Miss Charlotte Lysle, Mr. Bucher and Mr. Bailey were among the early teachers.

Twenty-five girls and 13 boys answered the first roll call. Included in this first enrollment of 38 pupils, there were two seniors and two juniors.

The members of the first graduating class (1915) were Theodore Phillips and Joseph Tucker. The following year (1916) William Easton and August Vanden Bosche were graduated.

Although there were just 13 boys in the school the first year, the school was represented in athletics by a football team, basketball team, baseball team, as well as girls' basketball team. Naturally the first football team was not expected to attain any great heights due to lack of material. And yet, one finds that three of the boys became quite prominent in college football later. Robert Allison, later a star for Blackburn College in Illinois and now a member of the State Legislature of that state; the late Kepler Mills and Harry McHenry, later prominent football coaches, were members of that first team.

The athletic highlight of the school the first two years was its baseball team. Victories were recorded over Brownsville, Donora, Perryopolis, Centerville, Cokeburg, Crafton and Burgettstown high schools without any difficulty.

HAS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

The schools are now organized on a six-three-three basis. The first six grades make up the elementary school. Two separate elementary schools are maintained, the Noss demonstration school on the college campus and the borough school.

Junior High is operated on the usual basis, including grades seven, eight and nine. It is housed in what is generally called the "new" building. Senior High is made up of grades 10, 11 and 12, pursuing classroom work in the old building.

California schools serve as a laboratory for the teachers college, students of which are prepared to teach by actually instructing in the borough schools.

Not only the borough but tuition students from neighboring districts go to make up the enrollment. Coal Center, West Pike Run Township, Elco, Roscoe, and Stockdale send their pupils to high school here.

In November, 1933, the high school was accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The rating has been maintained ever since. (All of the standards of the rating association have been completely met except two and those are partially completed now). The rating places California on a par with the best schools of the state.

California has broadened its program of studies until today it offers the following complete curricula: Academic, scientific academic, language academic, commercial, general industrial arts. In each case the standards exceed those required by the state and the Middle States Association.

Departments have been organized throughout the schools. A new emphasis has been placed on health. A complete physical education program is offered and locker and shower room facilities have been provided for both boys and girls.

The home economics department has been improved by the completion of a new unit through local and PWA funds. It was planned by Mrs. Green of the state department. The new unit contains a large teaching unit, a model kitchen, dining room and living room. Mrs. Stewart, who has taught in Donora, Clairton and Monongahela schools, was selected to reopen this department.

The industrial arts department is art metal work and mechanical drawing.

A course in speech training under the leadership of Nancy Bowman has been introduced.

Organization of a band has enabled California to keep pace with other high schools in music.

The schools are so organized to permit individual expression through assembly programs, home rooms, club activities and social programs.

The high school has two chapters in the National Honor Society and the National Forensic league. It has two active state chapters in Hi-Y and Tri-Hi-Y work and a number of active school clubs, such as Girls Athletic League, Varsity Club, Press Club, and Library Club.

In the last two decades, California has won numerous county contests in music, dramatics and debating. Nor has it been surpassed in district, state, and national contests.

The development of an athletic plant has made the district's program all the more finer. Sports, including football and basketball, take an active part in the school's program.

Such was California's public school history until February 25th, 1948, for on that date we were no longer the California School District, but by virtue of an approved contract signed on that date we became known by the name of California Community Schools. How this came about is discussed here at some length:

For several years, more and more citizens have been advocating an enlarged and improved public school system for the community.

From the athletic outlook there was no doubt as to the desirability of consolidation of the East Pike Run Township and Borough schools. Some few questions were raised regarding educational advantages by those people who believe that the three "Rs" are all the education that is needed. Many of these people did not appreciate the broadening influences to be gained by an enlarged program of extra curricular activities. They did not understand that such a program would not only fill the students idle hours with worthwhile instruction but would give them an opportunity of self expression and the feeling of well being so essential in the foundation of strong character.

The financial problems of consolidation really seemed to be the stumbling block. The differences in assessed valuation of the Borough and Township was very small, however, the tax millage rate was substantially different as was the pupil enrollment of the two districts. The Borough school district was free of all indebtedness; the Township had some outstanding bonds to consider.

The whole question was complicated, not only by the real problems to be solved, but by a number of people who opposed it on personal grounds of old prejudices. There was no question of housing as there were adequate facilities for all students, including the tuition students who attended the Borough schools from Coal Center, West Pike Run Township, Long Branch, Elco and Roscoe. True, there would have to be adjustments made in attendance areas to utilize present facilities of the community to the best advantage. These attendance areas might have to be changed from year to year as enrollment fluctuated, but no hardship would be imposed on anyone by these adjustments. In some cases the distance traveled would be materially shortened.

The hardy souls who continued to talk of consolidation in spite of lack of concrete action, gradually gained a following and began to see results late in 1945. Federal Judge Wallace S. Gourley, then a State Senator and member of the senate committee on education, spoke to the local Rotary Club. Invited guests included members of the school boards of East Pike Run Township and California Borough.

The Senator, knowing that the local school situation was uppermost in the minds of the gathering, thoroughly explained the various methods available to legally effect the desired change. The State Department of Public Instruction advocated any sort of unification of schools. Their preference was outright consolidation of school districts in any particular attendance area. This, obviously, would eliminate their working with so many different districts, thereby reducing the State's administrative expense.

Consolidation would have to be favorably passed upon by the majority of the voters in each of the districts affected. Such action would be unlikely to pass in the California-East Pike Run area as a district, financially sound, would not favor assuming any of the obligations of a less fortunate neighbor. This would also have entailed making adjustments in assessed valuation and millage. It would mean the operation of the school system by one school board for the entire area affected, instead of the two which now exist. The same number of tax assessors and collectors would also be eliminated. In other words, each district would lose its identity, a circumstance which would not likely result in favorable action by ballot.

The simplest solution for obtaining the locally desired results was referred to as Joint action. Under this plan the school boards of the districts desiring to improve their system, could, by majority action of each board, form a Joint board, composed of all members of each board affected and operate all schools as a unit. This, of course, to be covered in detail by a carefully compiled contract duly executed and approved by the County Board of School Directors and the State Department of Public Instruction.

Legislation had been enacted pointing toward possible compulsory consolidation of school districts if voluntary action was not forthcoming locally. Each County Board had been called upon to make specific recommendations by July 1st, 1948.

With this background, the California Board, on February 28th, 1946, extended an invitation to the members of the boards of East Pike Run, West Pike Run and Coal Center to meet together for an exchange of opinions. An informal discussion resulted in decision to ask for further advice from a State representative. A competent official was assigned to meet with the group April 25th, 1946. The project was enjoying enthusiastic reception when an unfortunate remark by the State official created a suspicion, wholly unjustified, in the minds of the representatives of one of the districts. Attempts to hold subsequent meetings failed to draw interest and the project was abandoned for over a year.

However, after the elections in 1947 the people who had fostered the idea for years renewed their efforts. On January 9th, 1948, the East Pike Run Board invited the California Board to a meeting to reopen discussion of the matter. This resulted in many more meetings in the next few weeks. There were several public forums held throughout the community where the plan was explained and opinions were expressed. The County Board was most co-operative. Although many unforeseen obstacles presented themselves, the give and take spirit prevailed and the result was an approved contract being signed on February 25th, 1948.

This Joint contract was the first in Pennsylvania to cover the entire system from Kindergarten through High School. Other Joint operations cover only High Schools or Elementary Schools. The contract will result in savings to both districts although costs will increase due to salary increases made mandatory by new state laws and the increasing cost of supplies.

A great deal of administrative planning and research was required before the basis for the contract could be reached. Mr. First, Mr. Letrick and Mr. Coatsworth spent long hours analyzing the situation from all angles to give the Boards all the data needed in reaching an agreement. They displayed unselfish interest in the proceedings by each resigning to their respective Boards. This relieved the Joint Board of any obligation imposed by the tenure law in the selection of administrators for the joint system.

The many problems developed in dovetailing the student bodies, utilizing the different text books of the two districts, transportation, etc., were handled efficiently. The co-operation of the entire staff has had a very satisfactory influence on the community. The student body has shown its approval of the joint system by refraining from any showing of preference for the things that either of the original schools stood for. Rather, they have preferred, in many instances, to make a fresh start, as in the case of school colors, team names, etc.

The traditional high standards of the California schools have been maintained as witnessed by the report of the Middle States Accrediting Association Committee. This group, composed of leading educators in their fields, have made an intensive survey of the Senior High School and their oral report, given March 24, indicates that this school will again receive accredited rating. There are but three such accredited schools in Washington County. This is a distinction of which the community can be very proud.

The report suggested desired changes of minor importance, quite in line with known standards. Many of these would have been accomplished but for the pressure of other matters incidental to the combining of the two systems. The committee gave its highest praise to the communities progressive spirit which resulted in the joint system. They also suggested cafeteria service for the High School. This is also a desirable feature for the Junior High School as most pupils in both schools travel too far to return home for lunch.

The results of the forensic league contests and art exhibits are most gratifying. California placed fifth in the Southwestern division of the forensic league and won outstanding recognition in the arts exhibit. The athletic teams made a most creditable showing in their sections. Every activity has justified the joint operation.

The faculty of the California Community Schools are:

William H. First	Supervising Principal
J. W. Coatsworth	High School Principal
John Letrick	Junior High School Principal

The Boards effecting the joint action were:

East Pike Run Township:

Francis Coatsworth
Bernard Grebb
Andrew Timko
Phillip Collins
William Walters
Anthony Kulok
Albert Filoni

California Borough:

John R. Gregg
David G. Button
Mrs. Mary Farquhar
Gilbert C. Channing
Arthur J. Brickley

The Joint Board elected John R. Gregg as its first president. Mrs. Janet Yorty is secretary, and Ellis M. Lilley is treasurer.

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS FACULTY

Alberti, Josephine S.	Gallo, Gloria D.	Marsh, Ada K.
Agllo, Joseph	Glott, Ralph	Miller, Ralph
Baldwin, Permelia	Gue, Bertha	Mills, Gladys M.
Barr, Margaret	Hall, Sarah A.	Neil, Bernard
Bassi, Lillian	Harris, Alice	Neill, Margaret W.
Bielawski, Stanley	Harris, Sara	Neill, Robert
Brock, Jane	Haywood, Edmund J.	O'Brien, Jessie H.
Burton, Betty	Hickman, Dolph	O'Brien, Mary C.
Cairns, Arthur	Holman, Byron	Olander, Jean C.
Caldwell, Jean	Holman, Merrell	Pavlak, Stephen
Campagna, Frank	Hosler, Harry	Piper, Warren S.
Celestine, Blanche Z.	Hughes, Rose	Radick, William
Cornell, Donald	King, Mary C.	Riggs, Gladys
Cronauer, Robert	Kinney, Elwood	Samaritana, Margaret T.
Crouch, Marjorie	Klein, James	Shepley, Dennise
Dalaidi, Lena C.	Koval, Suzanne	Shukis, Victoria Louise
Dalaidi, Rose	Kulikowski, Joseph	Sowers, Phyllis
Daniel, Jeanette	Latta, Ann	Stewart, Cathlean
DeFede, Margaret	Law, Bertha	Taylor, Thelma
Escher, Marie	Lenox, Louise	Underwood, James
Frederick, Frances	Lowman, Dorothy	Watkins, William R.
Furlong, Elizabeth W.	McCain, Elizabeth Ann	Williams, Olan Y.

William H. First	Supervising Principal
John W. Coatsworth	Principal (Senior High School)
John Letrick	Principal (Junior High School)
Christine Forbes	School Nurse

California's Military History

The following account of the only company to be formed in California and Greenfield for service in the Civil War is taken verbatim from the "History of the Fifth West Virginia Cavalry," originally called "The Second Virginia Infantry," by Frank S. Reader of Coal Center.

"This company was organized in Greenfield (now Coal Center) and California, Washington County, Pa., soon after the firing on Fort Sumter. The first Sunday after the news came that Sumter had been attacked, was one of intense excitement. Early in the morning the martial band was brought out, and ere long a crowd was gathered behind it and formed into a procession, which paraded through the two towns. A halt was called on the bank of the Monongahela River in Greenfield, and speeches were made of the most inflammatory character; and the nucleus of a military organization was formed. Other meetings were held, and on April 27, 1861, a company was fully enlisted, and it was named the "McKenna Infantry," in honor of Hon. William McKenna, of Washington, Pa. Notice was sent at once to the Governor of Pennsylvania, that the company had been enlisted and was at his call for duty, and the answer came that our state could not receive us, the quota of three months men not only being filled, but a large number of enlistments ahead. Application was made again and again for our acceptance, but all failed. At last the word came that loyal Virginia was stretching forth her hands, asking the loyal sons of Pennsylvania to come to her help, and we decided to enter the service of that state. The order came for the company to report at Wheeling on July 10. On the ninth the company left for the front, going in wagons to Washington, Pa., where we stayed over night, and the next day went to Wheeling on the B. & O. railroad, arriving there at 10 a.m., repairing at once to Camp Carlisle. Here we were sworn into the United States service by Major Oaks, the company being officered as follows: Captain L. E. Smith; first lieutenant, A. A. Devore; second lieutenant, N. W. Truxal.

The company remained in Camp Carlisle until July 22nd, when we left Wheeling on the B. & O. railroad, arriving at Grafton on the morning of the 23rd, thence to Webster, pitching our tents on the side of the hill, our first camp in the tented field. Here we met a large number of the three months volunteers returning from their victorious campaigns in the front, who heartily cheered us as the "boatmen," because of our coming from the Monongahela River, and many of the men having at one time and another followed that occupation. The regiment often went by that name in the mountains; and partly on that account, early gained the reputation of being a hardy and sturdy force of men. We resumed our March on the 25th, and arrived at Beverly on the afternoon of the 27th, where we joined the other companies of our regiment, and were assigned as Company I."

Company I numbered 113 men, probably about equally divided between California and Greenfield. When you consider that in the census of 1860 our entire population of men, women, and children was but 476 persons, and of this number 220 were school children, how many babies is unknown, we couldn't

have had more than 100 men of military age. When you subtract 60 men who went with Company I, Fifth West Virginia Cavalry, there remained very few to man our boat yards and keep the new town in order. But that our "boys" acquitted themselves like men, I quote from a letter from Governor Pierpont of Virginia to Mr. Reader: "But this is certain that whenever I heard of a fight where the Second Virginia or Fifth Calvary, after they became mounted, was, I heard a good report of them. They were reported brave to recklessness sometimes. It was said of them that whenever they got in a close place, every man was a general, and that they were almost invincible. They certainly achieved some victories that seemed in the beginning almost hopeless. It is strange how soon men will become allied in a common cause, and the alliance seems to become a part of their nature. I frequently meet old soldiers after they have met some of those Pennsylvania comrades, and they say it is wonderful what an interest these old Pennsylvania soldiers of the Second West Virginia take in everything about West Virginia. I am yours with great respect, F. H. Pierpont."

Of the one hundred thirteen Greenfielders and Californians, who comprised Company I, 5th West Virginia Cavalry, eight were killed in action, two died of typhoid fever, ten were captured, of whom, two died in Andersonville Prison and one escaped from Libby; six wounded in the second battle of Bull Run, and four in Rocky Gap; two resigned and four deserted. Among the captured was Harry Billingsley, of our town, wounded in the battle of Rocky Gap, August 26, '63, and taken to Savannah, Georgia, where he died in the hands of the enemy. It was to honor him that our post of the Grand Army of the Republic was named "Harry Billingsley Post No. 168, G.A.R."

Frank S. Reader, the author of the "History of the Fifth West Virginia Cavalry," escaped from Libby Prison and returned to Greenfield, but later moved to New Brighton and became a newspaper editor and publisher.

Officers of Company I, West Virginia Cavalry: Captains, Lewis E. Smith, Norval W. Truxall; 1st Lieutenants, A. A. Devore, D. F. Williamson, Jas. K. Billingsley—later Captain, Chas. H. Day, James B. Montgomery; Sergeants, O. M. J. Hutchison, Jacob Hornbake, Jacob Kent, Alexander Latta, Jacob Qualk, George Underwood.

I am deeply grateful to Mrs. Margaret Sloan Neil for a copy of the "History of the Fifth West Virginia Cavalry" by Captain Frank S. Reader of Coal Center.

California's next real military experience came in 1898 with the Spanish American War. When the "Fighting 10th Regiment" under the command of Col. Alexander L. Hawkins—the only regiment selected by Pennsylvania to go to the Philippines—set sail there were three California boys aboard: Archibald Powell, son of John R. Powell; Carl Paxton, son of Capt. S. B. Paxton, and C. H. Dils of the State Normal School. Those of you who have access to copies of the Sentinel for 1898-99 will find letters from all these boys describing their services and the Islands. Arch Powell was wounded in the battle of Malate, but quickly recovered. Our boys helped print the first paper on the Islands in the English language. The war closed in August, 1898, the treaty of peace between Spain and the U. S. being signed in Paris, December 10, 1898. But peace between the Philippines and the United States did not come until our troops defeated the forces of Agreinaldo on February 4, 1899.

But it was still a long six months before the "Fighting 10th" came home, but without its Captain, for Colonel Hawkins was too ill, from the effect of the climate and efforts for his regiment, to make the trip. The next year Colonel Hawkins died aboard ship—the Senator—on his way home July 18, 1900, when but 56 years old.

"My captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still,
My father does not feel my arm, he has no pulse nor will,
The ship is anchor'd safe and sound, its voyage closed and done,
From fearful trip the victor ship comes in with object won:
Exult O shores and ring O bells!
But I with mournful tread,
Walk the deck my Captain lies,
Fallen cold and dead."

—Walt Whitman

But home coming day arrived at last—Tuesday, August 28, 1899—for the boys of the "Fighting 10th," the "Welcome Home" being the work of the O.U.A.M., who used the headquarters of the G.A.R. in the I.O.O.F. Hall, corner of Second and Union Streets, for the official reception. The Harr's martial band and Miss Laura Ward—the late Mrs. Laura McCleary—furnished the music. Addresses by the Reverends Murray and Howard preceded those of Archibald Powell of Co. I, whose talk was vivid and most interesting to those to whom the Philippines was but a spot on a map. Carl Paxton of Co. A. and C. H. Dils of Co. I., also gave short talks that stressed the simple and intimate side of army life. A reception followed on the lawn of J. H. Wilkins.

WORLD WAR I

Came April 6, 1917, and our declaration of war against Germany—"the war to end all wars"—"the war to make the world safe for democracy," and California again proved her courage and loyalty.

Then California witnessed scenes common all over our country. Before conscription boards were ready to function, volunteers could and did register at our post office and that they were accepted is proven by two letters to be found in *The Sentinel* of May 25, 1917. One was from Jim McCain, stationed at San Antonio, Texas, May 20—and one from Bob Crawford of Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, May 22. Our conscription board consisted of Olan Yarnall and the late James R. Hill. This board met June 5 and listed the names of two hundred and thirty conscripts. But Washington County failed to fill its quota for enlistments—288—only 94 recruits having signed up for service, and the War Department was most insistent that this deficit be filled by midnight, June 30. Our record was clear, however, for by July 1, over forty Californians had already enlisted and were serving in the military and naval branches of the U. S. Forces.

The exemption board of the 4th Division of Washington County—to which California belonged—met at Ellsworth. The late W. E. Dixon of our borough was secretary of the board, and Drs. Kirby, Bliss, Campbell, and Black examiners. As every claim for exemption had to be thoroughly investigated, the job was

no sinecure. Our first draftees—22 men from Division 4—left September 16 for Camp Sherman, Ohio, after a riotous send-off by our town. The second contingent—142 men—left September 21, in custody of W. E. Dixon until released at Camp Sherman. Our third contribution to the U. S. Army left October 6 on its way to Germany—France, or perhaps a front line trench in Belgium, with a stopover, also, at Camp Sherman.

In the October 12 issue of the Sentinel is a letter to the Harry Mills' from their son, the late Kepler Mills, from Fort Bliss, Texas, dated October 7, 1917. As you would suppose, he told of the powerful football team of Fort Bliss.

Our fourth quota composed entirely of colored soldiers—6 men—bound for Camp Sherman, left California early Saturday morning, October 27. Three were from California, one from West Brownsville, one from Spears, and one from Bentleyville.

Mr. W. E. Dixon resigned as secretary of the 4th Division of Washington County's Registration Board December 4, 1917, and Joe T. S. Cowan, of Roscoe, was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Our fifth quota, numbering 50 men, left Charleroi March 1, 1918, for Camp Lee, Va., followed by our sixth contingent—34 men—April 26, 1918 for Camp Sherman, Ohio. In less than a month, May 14, 37 men left for Columbus Barracks, Ohio; this was our seventh quota.

Our eighth addition to U. S. Troops, 117 men, destined for Camp Humphries, entrained at Charleroi May 28, and two months later, July 26, Camp Lee, Virginia, received 24 men from the 4th Division. We sent three more groups before the Armistice, 10 men September 4 for Camp Forest, Georgia; 11 men September 5 for Camp Greenleaf, Georgia, and 12 men November 13, for Camp Meade, Maryland; all these entrained at Charleroi.

Then this news flash—"All draft calls cancelled. Woodrow Wilson, Pres.—came November 11, 1918—Cessation of hostilities. To those who remember that day, no words can express the mixed feelings it aroused; to those who do not, it is unexplainable. Our joy was tempered by the memory of those who would not pass this way again—Levi Lamb, Raymond Patterson, Arthur Van Dine, and others we knew who were listed with other divisions; those "who belong to the ages." Also, we saw in the future the lame, the blind, the physically and mentally ill for whom the war would never be over.

During the last month of the war the whole country was suffering from an influx of the "flu." It became so violent that all schools in the borough, also the Normal School, took a forced vacation. At last, on November 6 an emergency hospital was in operation in what is now the Senior High School building. The desks were removed, and the fifty cots received from Harrisburg were all filled. Dr. Kerr, a state doctor, and Miss Butler, a state nurse, were in charge. Again Harrisburg sent more cots—30 of them—and Miss Mazula McCain of town was added to the nursing staff. The diet kitchen was in charge of Mrs. Raffle, Genevieve Ward and Mildred Underwood. Of the 79 cases cared for 74 were discharged or sent to regular hospitals, and five died.

That the women of California did what they could is proven by the record of the Red Cross. The whole second floor of the City Building was used by the Woman's Auxiliary of this organization for the making of hospital garments and surgical supplies. The Harris Construction Company and John R. Powell Sons made and furnished the work tables, making for more and better output. As Chairman of the Auxiliary, I remember with deepest appreciation the excellent work done by our women.

From the opening of the Red Cross Work Room August 2, 1917, until the close, November 30, 1918, its output: 38,794 surgical dressings, 7,399 hospital garments, 1,754 knitted articles, 1,265 shot and cretonne bags.

WAR COMES AGAIN TO THE U. S.

When at 7:50 on December 7, 1941, Japanese planes made their surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, with great damage to our naval and military forces, and great loss of life; when Japan declared war on the United States and Great Britain, she initiated the greatest conflict the world has ever known—the war which threatened to destroy civilization.

The next day, December 8, Congress declared war on Japan, as also did Great Britain. From that date—December 8, 1941, until September 2, 1945, when the formal surrender of Japan was signed on the Battleship U.S.S. Missouri, Americans lived a life as unreal and fantastic to us as a nightmare in Hades. Who of us who witnessed them can ever forget our "Blackouts," "Rationing Boards," "Ration Books," "Bond Drives," "Salvage for Victory," and "Draft Boards."

California belonged to area number three of Washington County Registration Board and was headed by Dr. Theodore Siedle of the State Teachers College, the other two members being Dr. Chas. Seaton of Fredericktown and Hirma L. Coleman of our town.

Our first blackout was Tuesday, February 17, 1942, and from then on when the air raid siren sounded, we were as dark as before God said "Let there be light." Our air raid wardens were: Dr. T. M. Gilland, Mr. Paul N. Walker, Dr. I. C. Keller, John Letrick, and Norman Tarr. These wardens and their assistants saw to it that the order of "lights out" was obeyed regardless.

The town's first rationing board consisted of: Joseph Yablonski, chairman; Mary Boris, secretary; Horace Montgomery, Mildred Underwood.

The town paper featured portraits of many soldiers and the lists of men called up for induction by Local Board No. 3 grew long and ever longer. The land, sea and air needed young men—and men not so young—until it seemed none would be left for work in mines, mills, etc. Girls were enlisting as Waacs, Waves, and Nurses and leaving for training. We who remained "felt like one who treads alone some banquet-hall deserted." Papers listed also:

Tin Can Collection, February 12, '43.

No Processed Canned Goods Sold After February 20, '43.

Bond Sales.

New Air Raid Alarm System.

Ration Books Issued February 22, 23, 24, '43.

9th District output of Bituminous coal for 1942—7,337,554 tons mined in Washington County; 54,475 in the one Fayette County mine in the 9th District, of which Vesta 4, 5 and 6 produced 4,075,141 tons, surpassing all other district coal companies combined. O. S. E. Conrad State Mine Inspector.

At first news of the deaths of our boys came in singly and at rather far spaced intervals: Buddy Harkess; Lt. George; William R. Simpson, Aviation Cadet; Frank Huseman, Lt. j.g., Navy—but as time marched on, the dreaded news reached more home in our district and all over the country. The avenging of Pearl Harbor required more than a million casualties—1,068,000 to be exact—throughout the entire battlefronts of the war, and we paid our pro rata share. For the mills of the Gods kept grinding, grinding, and the death lists kept getting bigger and bigger, and the end is not yet. Visit our Veterans' Hospitals, read of the bodies being sent home for re-burial, see the institutions for mental patients, and you appreciate Sherman's definition of war.

At last V E Day, May 8, 1945, and three months later V J Day and the star of hope was again visible in the heavens.

Our Honor Board on the Berkley Corner of the Public Square lists 457 boys of our borough who had helped to bring about this happy result, but eight of them are marked by a gold star—to us a symbol of the greatest suffering and the greatest victory.

“The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,
And all that beauty, all that wealth, e'er gave,
Await alike the inevitable hour;
The paths of glory lead but to the grave.”

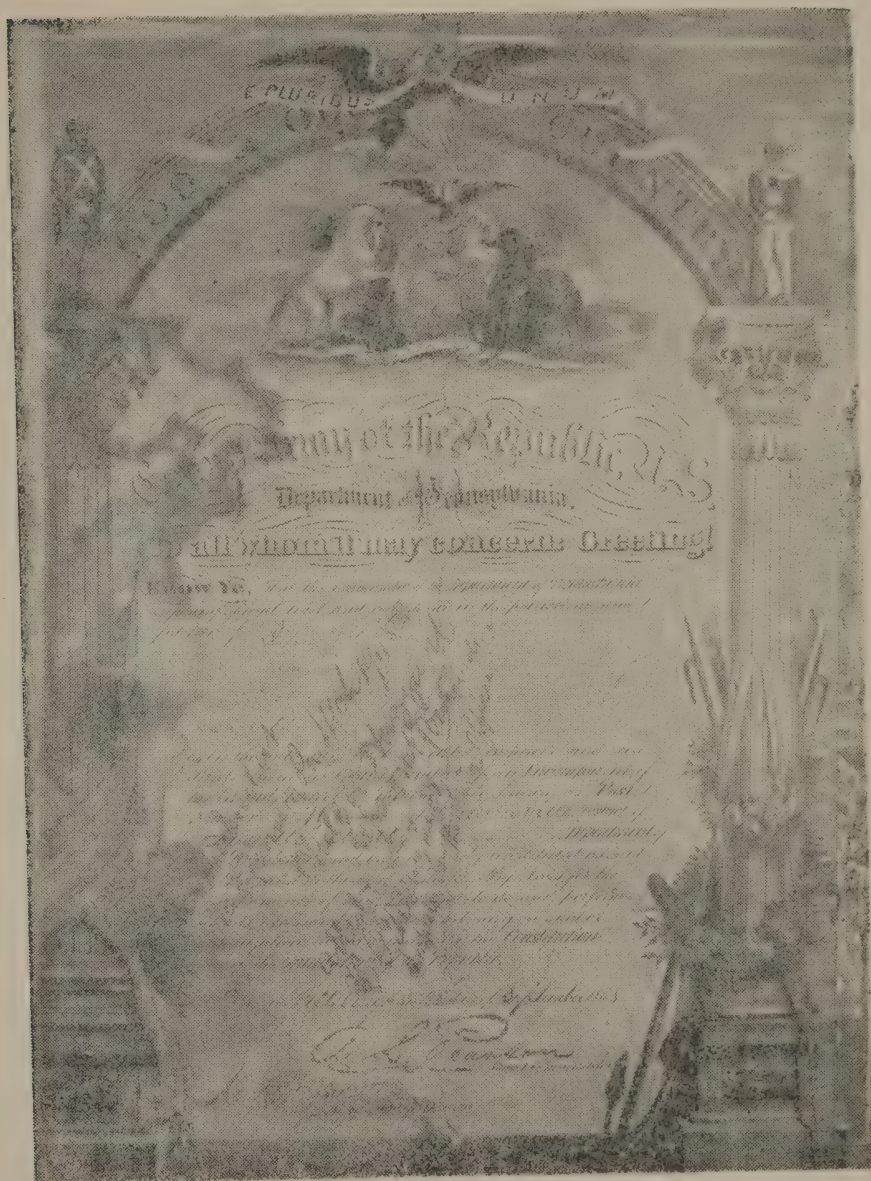
—Thomas Gray.

To

Lt. George Harkess
William Simpson, Aviation Cadet
Lt. j.g. Frankie Huseman
Edwin Burchesy
Neal Nasser
Constantine Pedicino
William Roberts
William Weaver

“*Requiescat in pace.*”

G.A.R. CHARTER



CHARTER MEMBERS

J. B. SHALLENBERGER

L. P. BEAZEL

S. J. HOWE

L. F. DAWSON

J. B. MONTGOMERY

W. A. PEADEN

W. M. HART

F. F. MONTGOMERY

S. B. PAXTON

JONAH HARRIS

L. FRYE

HARRY BILLINGSBY POST OF G.A.R. FORMED IN CALIFORNIA

Harry Billingsby Post No. 168, Grand Army of the Republic, was organized at a meeting held in the Borough of California, May 5, 1869.

Harry Billingsby, a brother of Capt. J. K. Billingsby, had served as a private in the Second Regiment of the West Virginia Infantry, later Co. I, West Virginia Cavalry. At the battle of Rocky Gap, West Virginia, he was wounded and taken prisoner, and finally died of his wounds at Savannah, Ga., while in the hands of the enemy.

It appears that at the organization meeting of the Post, Commander I. M. Register and other comrades of the Brownsville Post were present, that regular order of business was omitted and James K. Billingsby, James S. Long, L. P. Fry and Thomas Young were thereupon mustered in as recruits.

Commander I. M. Register then resigned as commander and S. B. Paxton was elected to fill the unexpired term. Prior to this time a post had been organized at Brownsville but interest there lagged and the charter left in the hands of the Californians.

The first regular meeting of the post was held May 12, 1869, when the following officers were mentioned as being present: S. B. Paxton, Commander; A. G. Powell, Vice Commander; I. T. Dawson, Adjutant; D. DeHaven, Quartermaster; N. W. Truxal, Surgeon, and W. N. Baker, Officer of the Day.

Subsequent Commanders were: James Billingsby, elected in June, 1869; Luke P. Beazell, elected in December, 1869; John W. Piper, June 1870; W. B. Harris, December, 1870; James K. Billingsby, December, 1871; J. B. Shallenberger, December, 1872, and continued until March 1880, when the post was reorganized; J. B. Shallenberger again was elected Commander; in December, 1880, I. T. Dawson was named Commander, and in December, 1881, William M. Hart was named Commander.

It was said of William M. Hart that within 30 minutes after hearing of the bombardment of Ft. Sumter he caused to be made and displayed the first United States Flag to be hoisted in the Panhandle of Virginia. He also was the first United States volunteer in the town of Hamilton, Hancock County, Virginia, now West Virginia.

The following list includes the names of members at the time of their initiation: J. K. Billingsby, L. P. Beazell, J. B. Montgomery, L. T. Dawson, N. W. Truxal, S. B. Paxton, Erastus Mann, L. P. Fry; W. N. Baker, John Veatch, A. N. Jones, John W. Piper, J. S. Dales, M. A. Sample, John R. Williams, Jonah Harris, W. A. Peardon, J. D. Shallenberger, D. H. Lancaster, McCall Smith, James G. Young, W. H. Harrison, Louis Schreiner, Thomas J. Walker, Allen Moore, Thomas Young, W. H. White, Nathaniel Young, George Clendenin, W. H. Mahaney, S. J. Howe, Robert A. McDonald, John G. Thompson, D. H.

Lewis, James McDonough, William McMurray, A. J. Hertzog, Joseph Garrow, Thomas A. S. White, Thomas Williams, George W. Sherman, David Phillips, William Lundy, Samuel M. Jobes, Joseph W. Waters, J. W. L. Rabe, William Wilson, J. M. Swan, William M. Hart, and T. F. Montgomery.

Harry Billingsby Post No. 168 G.A.R., from the date of its organization until it passed out of existence, had 138 members of whom not one is alive today. Thirty of its former boys are resting in the old graveyard at the lower end of Third Street, twenty are sleeping at Howes Cemetery, others are to be found at Eastern and Highland cemeteries, still others will be located in God's burying grounds all over the country. Soldiers of the post listed their birth places in Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, Ohio, Canada and Ireland. There are no business entries in its records after 1910, so it is to be supposed that the order did not exist long after that time. The last death entered was Henry Lyons, Aug. 25th, 1913.

Practically all professions and industries of the time were represented in the membership. Their ages ranged from D. H. Lewis, twenty-six years to Peter Smith, 75 years of age, at the time of their initiation into the post.

"Slowly and sadly we laid them down
From the fields of their fame, fresh and gory!
We carved not a line, we raised not a stone,
But we leave them alone with their glory."

WAR OF 1812

Michael Harris

David Shutterly

CIVIL WAR

John H. Hunt	Co. C., Monongahela, Reg., California
W. L. Abell	California
Alfred E. Bowe	Confederate Veteran, California
John N. Crow	Co. K., 6th W. Va. Cav., California
Samuel E. Clear	Co. K., 116 Pa. Vols., California
S. J. Dawson	Co. A., 22 Pa.
Henry Devers	Co. I., 2nd W. Va. Inf.
Harry Devers	Co. I., 5th W. Va. Cav.
George W. Dieveart	Ringgold Cav.
Hamilton Fitsimons	Co. I., 5th W. Va.
Jonah Harris	Co. D., Ringgold Cav.
George L. Keith	
John Lopp	85th Pa. Vol., Co. I., 22 Reg. Va. Vol.
David Lancaster	Co. C., 85th Pa. Inf.
James McCain	Co. H., 7th Pa. Cav.
Robert McCreary	
John Miller	Co. D., K02 Pa., Inf.
R. A. McDonald (McDonal)	Co. I., 5th W. Va. Cav.
Wm. W. Melchi	Co. H., 1st Pa. Cav.
Ed. R. Melchi	Co. E., 155 Reg. Cav.
Isaac Husk	Co. I., 2nd W. Va.
Jacob Hornbake	5th Co. I., W. Va. Cav.
James Watson	Co. F., 22 Pa. Cav.
G. B. Walker	Co. B., 7th W. Va. Inf.
W. W. Truxal	Capt., Co. 1., 2nd W. Va.
Foster Truxal	Co. I., 2nd W. Va. Inf.
Louis E. Smith	Capt., Co. I., 2nd W. Va.
Frederick Remmell	Co. I., 5th W. Va. Cav.
James Reader	Co. 1., 2nd W. Va.
A. G. Powell	Co. D., 22nd Pa.

WORLD WAR I

Harry Willard Gillingham, Med. Dept.

Wm. Kinne

Dr. James S. Johnston

CHARTER MEMBERSHIP ROLL

CALIFORNIA AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 377

Commander.....Fred E. Anderson
 Vice Commander.....Louis G. Frye
 Adjutant.....Clarence O. Lewellyn
 Treasurer.....James L. Paxton

Jackson T. Baker, Gilbert C. Channing, Frank Desirant, Edward A. Dietz, Joseph Evans, Claude O. Garland, Robert M. Guiser, Fred Lachen, George V. Lutes, F. J. Miller, James Neil, Adlia C. Rossell, Jacob J. Sealy, James H. Tennant, Peter J. Wood.

PAST COMMANDERS OF THE CALIFORNIA AMERICAN LEGION

POST NO. 377

1920-1921—Fred E. Anderson	1934-1935—William Ames
1921-1922—Comer O'Brien	1935-1936—Walter Mitichner
1922-1923—Earl E. Taylor	1936-1937—Russell Booker
1923-1924—James L. Paxton	1937-1938—Russell Booker
1924-1925—James L. Paxton	1938-1939—Howard Abercrombie
1925-1926—Herman Dawson	1939-1940—Earl Burton
1926-1927—Hershell Cowan	1940-1941—Russell Booker
1927-1928—Wilbur Edwards	1941-1942—Joe Cresswell
1928-1929—John R. Gregg	1942-1943—Edward Deitz
1929-1930—William G. Frantz	1943-1944—Allen Burger
1930-1931—Earl Edwards	1944-1945—Leslie (Buss) Edwards
1931-1932—Earl Edwards	1945-1946—Emery Edwards
1932-1933—John E. Califfie	1946-1947—Raymond Furlong
1933-1934—Harry Walfish	1947-1948—Emery Edwards
	1948- —John Andrews

Our Civic Organizations

THE CALIFORNIA CENTURY CLUB

The California Century Club was the first club organized for purely literary and social purposes in California. There were a few organizations for solely literary activities—the Clio and Philo societies of the Normal School, the Lyceum of the Methodist Church, and perhaps a few others—but none that combined the cultural and the social before September 1899 when the above club was formed. There are two dates listed in the club's year books as to the exact time of its organization. From 1899 to 1909 it is given Sept. 20, 1899, but from thereon Sept. 10, 1899, will be found in all club programmes. The preamble, found in the first year book, 1899-1900, states:

"The purpose of the club shall be two-fold: to develop sociability, and to give opportunity to discuss topics of interest in the field of art, literature, politics, religion, science, history, and political economy." There were forty-three organizing members, who chose the following officers: Edwin W. Chubb, president; Mrs. W. H. Winfield, Mrs. T. B. Noss, vice-presidents; Mrs. O. O. Hornbake, secretary; Mrs. J. D. Meese, treasurer. Of the forty-three original members forty-one will not pass this way again.

During the club's one-half century of existence three hundred twenty-one members at various times will be found on its roster, and thirty of its members has served one or more terms as president.

Once a year it has been customary to hold a social night when the members of the club invite guests for an evening of "better than average" entertainment. In the good old days this was the outstanding social event of the year, with the gentlemen resurrecting and renovating the full dress regalia, and the ladies appearing in new evening gowns, gorgeous as a summer's slightly drenched sunset.

Through the fifty years of the club's existence it has adhered closely to the purpose stated in its preamble. Its members have not treated their assignments casually, but have spared neither time nor research to make their discussions interesting and instructive.

THE FRIDAY AFTERNOON CLUB

On the ninth day of May, 1902, in the parlors of the Arlington Hotel, a group of twelve women, summoned by an anonymous letter, met and organized a Fancy Work Club—to meet every other week for sewing and a social hour.

Miss Elizabeth Morgan was elected president.

In 1904, the name was changed to "The Friday Afternoon Club," and a code of rules was adopted. The purpose of the club was still purely social, but later and gradually the club became active in civic, educational and philanthropic projects.

The Club became a member of the State Federation of Pennsylvania Women in 1906, and a charter member of the Washington County Federation of Club Women in 1925, which also gave it membership in the General Federation of Women's Clubs in 1926.

One hundred six women have enjoyed membership in the club, although the membership has always been closed at thirty.

The programs and activities have been varied—educational, civic, charitable—following the trend of the activities of the town and federations, in which the club held memberships.

The club sponsored the organization of the Junior Friday Afternoon Club in September, 1928. This club is now The Friday Evening Club of California.

The present projects are The Red Cross, The Tuberculosis League, the Poppy Fund, The Town Library, and the Girl and Boy Scout movements.

The present officers are: president, Mrs. Newton Kerstetter; first vice-president, Mrs. Harry Lightcap; second vice-president, Mrs. Edward Wiley; secretary, Mrs. Robert Chorpenning; treasurer, Mrs. A. B. Linhart.

JUNIOR FRIDAY EVENING CLUB

The Junior Friday Evening Club was organized November, 1928, at the home of Mrs. Austin Piper, Wood Street, under the sponsorship of the Friday Afternoon Club, of which Mrs. Renwick Dean was president. Mrs. Arthur S. Gilmore was elected senior sponsor. Lois Jones was the first president, serving one year. Succeeding presidents were: Mrs. Chas. Lancaster, Mrs. Clarence Grove, Lavina Watkins, Mrs. Frank Clapperton, Mrs. Darrell Mase, Mrs. Willis Smith, Mrs. J. Riley Staats, Mrs. Clifford Lewis, Mrs. Leon Miller, Miss Elsie Channing, Mrs. Thomas Craig, Mrs. A. J. Frazier, Mrs. A. J. Hoover.

The Junior Club meets the first and third Friday evenings of each month, and its purposes are educational, philanthropical, and social. Motto of the club is Education, Charity, and Progress.

Among the various activities in which the club has participated are: The Braille Fund, which is sponsored by all the Junior Clubs in Pennsylvania; the Seeing Eye Dogs, which Junior Clubs of the state are purchasing for leaders to aid the blind; Red Cross Fund; Tuberculosis Society; American Legion Poppy Fund; Girl Scouts, and the Scholarship Funds.

Baskets and clothing have been purchased for the needy at various times.

The outstanding work of the California Club has been the creation of a Public Library, which was organized in February, 1936. The Library, located on Third Street, was opened May 29, 1936, under the leadership of Lavina Watkins. At the present time there are 1000 subscribers with 2500 books on the shelves. These books consist of adult fiction, children's books, encyclopedias, and reference books.

The building in which the Library is located is furnished by the California Borough Council.

Residents of the community donated furniture and some of the books.

The Junior Club, because of its work, has been given recognition by the State Federation and was asked to participate in the program at the 1934 State Convention in Harrisburg. Marion Hornbake, now Mrs. Weaver, and Mrs. Albert Childs Wright took part in the program.

The present president is Mrs. William First, and the club sponsors the Junior Womans Club of California, of which Miss Dorothy Lowman is president.

CALIFORNIA HUNGRY CLUB

The records indicate that the first meeting of the Hungry Club of California was held on March 22, 1927. It seems obvious that the moving spirits in the organization of the club were Richard Hawthorne, Arthur S. Gilmore and Harry L. Kriner. The first membership list included the following names: Azorsky, Brickley, Bradley, Clamerton, Copenhaver, Dean, Delbarre, Entz, Francis, Gleason, Gregg, Gilmore, Hawthorne, Huseman, Earl and Leslie Hornbake, Hazlett, Kelly, Kriner, Koop, Karnes, King, Lillet, Lamb, Wm. and Fred Latta, Linhart, Laight, Mahaney, Nasser, Pollock, Savage, Spear, Sieman, Springer, Sporza, Sisson, Tarr, Teets, Trowbridge, Underwood, West, Wilson, Wood, Olan and Audra Yarnall, Zemany.

Of that original group nine have continued membership to the present time. They are Abe Azorsky, John R. Gregg, John H. Huseman, Auburn Lamb, Addison B. Linhart, Malcolm Mahaney, Arthur Pollock, Audra Yarnall and Andrew Lemany.

The first officers of the club were Richard Hawthorne, president, and Harry Kriner, secretary. The original organization provided for the following standing committees: House, Community, Problems, Reception, Attendance, Finance, Program Music and Membership. Later when the club became actively interested in the Scout organization a committee on Boys Work was added.

The Constitution of the club states that "The object of this club shall be to promote good fellowship and social intercourse among the Citizens of California community through its members participating in meetings and (2) the promoting of worthy projects in the community." The constitution states further "The membership of this club shall consist of men who have their residence or business in California or within a radius of four miles therefrom." The membership of the club is limited to sixty-five and the quota is usually full or nearly so.

At the close of the first year of the clubs existence the Secretary had the following statements in his News Letter. "Do you realize your club is closing out its first year of service? What has it done? Think of the better fellowship; road markings and signs; football banquet; Christmas relief; Boy Scouts, etc." Under date of September 20, 1929, the secretary listed the following accomplishments:

1. Helped finance Memorial Day Celebration twice.
2. Secured white curve markers and danger signs on the pike road.
3. Aided in securing some new roads.
4. Financed two real community football banquets.
5. Welcomed College Alumni by signs at Commencement.
6. Ran "Civic Loyalty" signs in shows and papers.
7. Planned air sign on roof of Dixon Hall.
8. Started to get California signs in South Western Pennsylvania.
9. Financed flowers for the sick and bereaved.
10. Raised several hundred dollars for the Boy Scouts.
11. Aided in securing street lights.
12. Started a more beautiful community campaign.
13. Worked for a bigger and better California.
14. Developed a fine spirit of fellowship.
15. Helped in a community picnic.

Not all of the projects undertaken by the club have resulted favorably. Under date of November 12, 1934, the Secretary writes that he was directed to address Borough Council concerning the condition of the cemetery at the lower end of town. That cemetery is still a disgrace and an eyesore despite the fact that its improvement has been agitated for a long period of years. Another project mentioned frequently in the news letters was the bridge across the river to Newell. Whether the bridge will ever be built or not is another question that has not been answered. Still another project was an attempt to consolidate California with East Pike Run Township. Whether a beginning in that direction has been made through the merger of the schools is not to be foretold at the present time.

On February 15, 1934, the club sponsored an inter club meeting with Senator James J. Davis as the speaker. Twenty four service clubs of South Western Pennsylvania were invited to send guests. For several years the club sponsored an inter-Hungry Club meeting which was held at California. During those years organized Hungry Clubs were functioning at Fredericktown, Bentleyville, Centerville and California. The inter-club meetings were quite successful but were discontinued during the war years.

The agitation to close or curtail the State Teachers College, which for a number of years was renewed at each session of the State Legislature brought action by the Hungry Club in 1933. Under date of February 9, 1933, the news letter contained a copy of the following resolution. "If some Teachers Colleges are to be eliminated the community urges you to see that a guarantee is given that California Teachers College be retained, before you support the bill. We urge elimination of support of independent Colleges or Universities before any Teachers Colleges are eliminated." The foregoing resolution was sent to three Senators and eleven Assemblymen.

On October 4, 1934, the Club sponsored a Farmers Night for the purpose of getting better acquainted with farmers of the area. For a number of years the club has sponsored annually an outing for the Girl and Boy Scouts. Two other annual features are the Father-Son-Daughter meeting which is held near the Christmas Holiday Season, and The Ladies Night which is held in October.

The Club dues are \$2.00 per year, a five dollar initiation fee is charged for new members. This means that the annual income of the club is about one hundred fifty dollars. This limited financial income has not permitted the club to undertake projects which involve the outlay of a large amount of funds. The club makes contributions annually to such organizations and causes as the Scouts, the Christmas Seal Sale, the Red Cross, the local Library, the Poppy Sale. The club continues its interests in civic and community problems and through its meeting program and through letters works for those things which contribute to a better community.

The most recent project undertaken by the Club was the sponsorship of a production of the Messiah. The production was rendered by the Mixed Chorus of the Teachers College in the auditorium of the Teachers College and was quite successful.

Just how successful the club has been in carrying out the original purposes for which it was organized is subject to varying interpretations. A service club

renders service both to its members and to its community. The amount and kind of service rendered depends on the interest and enthusiasm of the membership. Some of the service is tangible and some is intangible. It would be inaccurate in the extreme to indicate that the club has done nothing to justify its existence. It would be just as inaccurate to indicate that it has done all that it is capable of doing. The programs of the meetings have been diverse; on the whole they have been of an exceptionally high order. But with meetings being held bi-weekly and with the total number of meetings per year being but twenty considerable momentum must be generated by those meetings or by the standing committees of the club. Interest in the meetings was continued over the years and the place of the club in the community seems to be assured.

The present officers of the club are: president, Abe Azorsky; vice-president, H. J. Griffith; treasurer, Richard M. Cole; secretary, Thos. M. Gilland.

HISTORY OF THE MOTHERS CLUB

Mothers Club, organized in 1921, county federated in 1927, state federated in 1935, whose meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month, September through June, at 7:30, in the Methodist Church parlors, or in members' homes, is a club which began as a Mothers' Sunday School Class of the First Presbyterian Church. Teacher at that time was Mrs. Georgia Long Gibson, at whose suggestion the class was organized into a club for Mothers. By-laws were drawn up by Mrs. Richard Cole, who served first, as vice-president. Mrs. Harry Wilson was the first president. Charter members, still belonging, are: Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Walter Dewar, and Mrs. Thomas Webber.

Early programs were planned around child subjects and home problems, with which mothers needed to familiarize themselves. Under the present president, Mrs. Emery Edwards, membership is listed at forty-two. Dues are one dollar and a half a year. A general fund of \$73.00 is on hand, as is a special fund of over \$700.

The club has concerned itself mainly with the Girl Scout Sponsorship. Also, during its infancy, it donated money and books to the High School Libraries of California and East Pike Run Township. During war-times it collected books for servicemen's enjoyment.

In the year 1930, with Mrs. I. C. Keller as president and leader, along with a committee made up of: Mrs. Arthur Gilmore, Mrs. Robert Steele, Mrs. John Collins, Mrs. J. Olan Yarnall, Mrs. James McCain, Mrs. Harry Walfish, Mrs. William Frye and Mrs. Carl Carson, and along with the cooperation of the entire club, as well as a community committee's aid, the movement for a Girl Scout Troop gained impetus and was completed.

Captain of the new troop was Mrs. Newton Kerstetter, who served faithfully and well for twelve years. Present able and efficient leader is Mrs. Francis Caruso. Her energetic Mothers' Club aids are: Mrs. Amanda Colley, Mrs. Walter Dewar, Mrs. Ralph Glott, Mrs. John Tarka, Mrs. Dan Killius, and Mrs. Thomas Brown. Other captains doing a fine line of work were Mrs. Allen Berger and Mrs. Simon Eltzroth (of the club).

Another outstanding project was a Child Health Clinic set up in 1932, led by Mrs. Max Kotler, Mrs. Jeannette Savage and Mrs. Otis Young, and held monthly in the Noss Demonstration School on the College Campus. Club programs at this time featured speakers and discussions on children of pre-school age; those of school age, and the late adolescent teen-agers.

Energies were expended during World War II toward fat savings for a source, but vitally home needed commodity soap. A large amount of the present special fund was earned by this zealous group of members, namely: Mrs. Mary Buttermore, Mrs. Amanda Colley, Mrs. William Campbell, Mrs. William Lancaster, Mrs. Ernest Baker and Mrs. Edwards. Necessary budget funds were also raised by means of bake sales, and spaghetti suppers, under the direction of Mrs. William Emmer and Mrs. Emery Edwards.

Outstanding yearly social functions are: Girl Scout Tea, Senior Tea, Flower Show and Garden Party Covered Dish Supper.

Yearly donations are given to: Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Tuberculosis Association, Salvation Army, Scholarship Fund, Sister Kenny Fund, Red Cross, March of Dimes Fund, and the Library Fund.

It is both fitting and proper to record the gracious hospitality that was enjoyed on numerous occasions at the Dr. and Mrs. Robert M. Steele home on the campus, for directors and teachers guest nights, Tri-Hi-Y, Girl's Tea, and regular club meetings. Mothers Club is also appreciative of the time and efforts of members of the Ministerial Association, and to educators from the Teachers College and local high schools as well as local talented students who helped make their programs interesting, informative and entertaining. The officers for 1948 were: Mrs. Emery Edwards, president; Mrs. Thomas Brown, vice-president; Mrs. Dan Killius, secretary; Mrs. Amanda Colley, treasurer; Mrs. Oliver Twist, corresponding secretary.

The Club's philosophy is best expressed Club Collect by Mary Stewart, which is repeated in unison at the opening of every meeting.

CLUB COLLECT

Keep us, O God, from pettiness; let us be large in thought, in word, in deed.
Let us be done with fault-finding, and leave off self-seeking.

May we put off all pretense and meet each other face to face, without self-pity
and without prejudice.

May we never be hasty in judgment and always generous.

Let us take time for all things, make us grow calm, serene and gentle.

Teach us to put into action our better impulses, straight forward and unafraid.

Grant that we may realize that it is the little things that create differences; that
in the big things of life we are as one.

And may we strive to touch and to know the great common women's heart of
us all, and O Lord God let us not forget to be kind.

—Mary Stewart.

The aims, hopes and prayers of every mother member are aptly told in the beautiful lines from the American poet, Byrant,

All-Gracious, grant to those who bear
A Mother's charge, the strength and light
To guide the feet that own their care
In ways of Love and Truth and Right.

William Cullen Byrant

IN MEMORIAM

"They, who lived valiantly, have passed"

Mrs. Arthur Anfield	Mrs. Irvin Confer	Mrs. Clyde Frantz
Mrs. Harvey Baker	Mrs. Hubert Copenhaver	Mrs. Myrtle Heiner
Mrs. Thomas Bell	Mrs. Fred Combs	Mrs. Earl Hornbake
Mrs. John Campbell	Mrs. Joseph Edwards Sr.	Mrs. Charles Yarnall
		Mrs. J. Olan Yarnall

"To Mothers—They made home happy"

CALIFORNIA PAST MATRONS CLUB

On March third, nineteen hundred thirty-seven, the Past Matrons of California, Chapter No. 211, Order of the Eastern Star met at the home of Mrs. Harriet M. Powell, Wood Street, for the purpose of constituting a Past Matrons Club. Mrs. Dora F. Endeman, Past Matron of Charleroi Chapter No. 122, was a guest, and assisted with the constitution. Mrs. Mary H. West was elected president, and Mrs. Iona R. Carson secretary and treasurer for the ensuing year.

The club meets on the second Wednesday of the month, with afternoon and evening meetings arranged to suit the hostess and program leader in charge. These programs are all prepared and presented by the member assigned on the program.

The membership is now thirty (30) members, including: Mrs. Dora F. Endeman, Charleroi Chapter; Mrs. Genevieve D. Steele, Latrobe Chapter, and Mrs. Rowena H. Frazier, Charleroi Chapter. Mrs. Janet C. Faddis, Charleroi Chapter No. 211, is an honorary member.

Present officers are: Mrs. Dorothy C. Tarr, president; Mrs. Jane S. Berkley, vice president; Mrs. Mary N. Crockell, secretary, and Mrs. Edith C. Frye, treasurer.

PROGRESS CLUB

The Progress Club has been in existence for eighteen years, having been organized in 1931, at which time Mrs. Otis Young became the first president.

Since its organization, the Progress Club has held bi-monthly meetings at the home of its members. The activities of the club are largely literary and cultural. It has been one of the local library's biggest boosters.

At the present time there are eighteen members of the organization. Present officers are: Mrs. Vaughn Moffitt, president; Mrs. George Hart, vice president; Mrs. A. J. Brickley, secretary, and Mrs. Anthony Stavaski, treasurer.

HISTORY OF THE CALIFORNIA ROTARY CLUB

The California Rotary Club, an organization of professional and business men, is of comparatively recent origin. Through the endeavors of the Brownsville Rotary Club the local club took form. Its charter was presented on May 22, 1945, at a charter night banquet at the Methodist Church, where about 200 guests from Southwestern Pennsylvania gathered to welcome the 17 charter members into Rotary International. Since 1945 the membership has grown to the present number of 29. The club holds dinner meetings each Tuesday evening at 6:10 o'clock at Pagoni's Restaurant. There is a weekly publication called "The Tattler."

The program of the Rotary Club finds vivid expression in its four aims, namely, the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service; high ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying by each Rotarian of his occupation as an opportunity to serve society; the application of the ideal of service by every Rotarian to his personal, business, and community life; and, lastly, the advancement of international understanding, good will, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional men united in the ideal of service. Rotary has two mottoes: "Service above self"; and "He profits most who serves best."

The Rotary Club has been characterized by much community activity. Under its sponsorship there have been pet parades, Hallowe'en parades, institutes on international understanding, children's theater party, treats, marble tournaments, kit contests, Christmas lighting contests, relief for needy persons and causes, and a variety show. The Rotary Club originally fostered the idea of a community centennial.

C. F. Rolison, K. P. Rutter, S. W. Pollock, and W. H. First have served as presidents. The officers for the new Rotary year are D. G. Button, president; George Goldberg, vice president; Joseph Gallagher, secretary; John R. Gregg, treasurer; George L. Harris, James Fiedler, and W. H. First, directors.

JUNIOR WOMEN'S CLUB

The Junior Women's Club of California, originally known as the Junior Friday Evening Club, is a federated club for the civic-minded young women of the community. It was organized and federated in 1940 under the sponsorship of the Friday Evening Club, which still serves the Junior section in an advisory capacity.

In 1948 the Log-Book, prepared by Mrs. Arthur Sutherland and Mrs. Raymond Smallwood, placed first in the Log Division of the State Scrapbook Contest.

The Junior Women's Club has always endeavored to support all worthy community projects and national campaigns. In their efforts to serve the community, the members have chosen to sponsor the "Brownies," which is a section of the Girl Scouts for girls between the ages of seven and ten. The Junior Women's Club directs and finances the activities of the "Brownies."

By taking an active interest in the children of the community, the thirty members of the Junior Women's Club hope to serve not only the community of the present, but also California of tomorrow.

Our Early Mercantile History

In the August 18, 1860 issue of the Valley Spirit, E. Lighterberger, Publisher, there is listed no store the entire length of Second Street. There is, however, a tailor, A. A. Devore, Second Street near Union. I give you, in its entirety, our Business Directory of seventy years ago.

DRY GOODS STORES

E. W. Barris.....Corner of Union and Third Sts.
S. Sickman.....Corner of Union and Third Sts.

MERCHANT TAILOR

A. A. Devore.....Second St. near Union

HOTEL

George Johnson.....Corner of First and Wood

MARBLE WORKS

J. A. Helterbran.....Corner of Union and Second

SHOE STORES

E. T. Rodgers.....First Street
Robert McDonald.....Third Street

PHYSICIANS

J. J. Fullmer.....Corner Union and Second
D. Young.....Corner Wood and Second

ATTORNEY AT LAW

Job Johnson.....Corner First and Wood

DEALER IN FRUIT TREES

D. Shallenberger.....Corner Third and Green

CARPENTERS

James P. Ailes.....Corner Main and Fifth
Joseph Powell.....Third Street

BOAT BUILDERS

George Eberman.....Green Street
William McFall.....Green Street

BRICK MOULDER

Wm. Carrell, Esq.Third Street

BLACKSMITH

Hays Jacobs.....First Street

PLASTERER

James M. Johnson.....Corner of Wood and Third

CRAFT & GARDNER,
UNDERTAKERS
 —AND—
FURNITURE DEALERS.



ALL SIZES, STYLES AND KINDS OF
Coffins, Caskets and Robes

Kept in stock. Special attention given to preserving dead bodies. Metallic Caskets furnished when desired. We also keep a stock of

FURNITURE, CHAIRS, MATTRESSES, PICTURE FRAMES, NAILS, COAL, &c., &c.

Which we offer at the lowest cash prices.
 HEMPHILL'S BUILDING, THIRD STREET, CALIFORNIA, TENNESSEE

Jas. Herron & Co.,
 DEALERS IN
 GLASSWARE, LAMPS, QUEENSWARE, NOTIONS,
Boots, Shoes, Dry Goods, Flour,
 GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, ETC., ETC., ETC.

Corner Third and Union Streets.

CALIFORNIA, PA

DRY GOODS UP STAIRS.

Reading over the above, it seems we were well taken care of in that early time—even to a marble works to mark our last resting place—but where did we get our breakfast food, likewise, our other meals? I know many people raised cows, pigs, geese, and chickens, leaving them to roam the public streets at will, but surely a lot 50x150 ft. could not produce wheat or corn sufficient to provide bread—white or yellow—for the family. Where, then, with no grocery stores, did the people of that early day get their flour, sugar, coffee, etc.?

Yes, you said it. Greenfield—Coal Center—who in the same paper quoted above, listed seven grocery stores. But even the energetic female of 1860 rebelled at the long walk to Greenfield to get her groceries, and in the June 13, 1861, copy of the "Spirit," L. W. Morgan, Dealer in Dry Goods and Groceries, was added to our list of tradesmen. Also, that same year, E. W. Barris enlarged his store room to include a fine new lot of groceries and carbon oil lamps, and No. 1 carbon oil. There was also a new industry advertised in our mercantile life:

MILLINERY AND MANTUAMAKING

MISS EMILINE PYLE

Miss Pyle announces that on April 1 she will be prepared to do all the best and most fashionable styles in the above lines. Also, ladies' caps of various and beautiful patterns will be kept on hand for sale. March 21, 1861. Miss Pyle later had her establishment in the store of James Herron & Company. Apr. 20, 1864. The Herron property is now occupied by Winfield Bros., who are perhaps the oldest grocery store in our town.

That California was attending to all our mortal needs is attested by this advertisement which appeared in our paper of 1871. In connection with their undertaking establishment the firm operated an up-to-date livery stable. This property was the home of "The Sentinel" for some years and is now owned and occupied by Mrs. Delbar, of Union Street.

To-day, your needs, from birth to death, can be adequately supplied by our many modern stores, eating places, doctors, and undertakers. But there is one thing we lack—sufficient housing for the stranger within our gates, and some who are not strangers—but in every thing else we are keeping up with "The Jones."

California has always known the largest and the best. For years we had the largest bituminous coal mine, Vesta No. 4, in the world. We have had, and have the best Normal School, now the Teachers College, in the State, and our mercantile life has kept pace with our coal and our school.

OUR BANKS

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

The First National Bank of California, the oldest continuous business in California and the oldest chartered bank in Washington County, was organized August 6, 1891. The organization certificate was executed by the following shareholders: E. F. Acheson, James A. Phillips, J. G. Patton, Roland C. Rodgers, William Hurford, R. L. Johnston, T. J. Wood, E. C. Stephens, E. A. Williams, John Stephens, W. H. Binns, J. T. Rodgers, William Snyder, Joseph S. Stockdale, J. F. Jones, John Reed, J. W. Richards, Eli Farquhar, Theodore B. Noss, Cary Piper, B. F. Jeffries, S. T. Chester, Wm. S. Patton, John O. Stewart, R. M. Thirkield, I. N. Springer, John K. Beadell, W. H. Gregg, L. S. Miller, J. A. Letherman, Joseph B. Crowthers, Frank Craven, Gibson Binns, Isaac C. Ailes, Anna E. McCrory, M. G. Finley, G. G. Hertzog, Rachel Bugher, Dorcas Stockdale, John S. Eberman, Allen J. White, W. E. Jackman, John W. Ailes, George W. Spalter, Mary M. Crouch, H. M. Stockdale, Ann C. Pester, Lewis L. Whiting, A. B. Duvall, C. F. Stephens, J. B. Shallenberger, and A. J. Gregg.

Isaac C. Ailes was chosen as the first president and W. H. Binns cashier. The initial board of directors included Isaac C. Ailes, James A. Phillips, John Reed, Cary Piper, W. H. Gregg, John S. Eberman and J. A. Letherman.

The charter was issued September 2, 1891, with a capitalization of \$50,000.

At a meeting of the board of directors on August 18, 1891, a location in the Arlington Hotel was selected as a banking room. It appears that at this date there was no notary public in California and at a meeting of the directors on October 13, 1891 the bank donated \$15.00 towards securing a notary. L. C. Powell was commissioned.

The first Statement of Condition as required by the Comptroller of the Currency was made under the date of Dec. 2, 1891. Total assets were \$91,-064.42. Deposits amounted to \$34,631.41.

On December 1, 1893, John S. Eberman was elected cashier to succeed W. H. Binns. Mr. Eberman served until Dec. 7, 1897, and was succeeded by Oliver J. Miller, who resigned October 4, 1898, at which time A. B. Ledwith was elected, serving until November 5, 1900, when W. S. Nicodemus was elected.

Isaac C. Ailes, who had continued as President of the Board of Directors since the organization of the bank died —, 1901. On July 16, 1901, W. H. Binns was elected to succeed him.

On May 6, 1902, the L. P. Beazell property at the corner of Third Avenue and Liberty Street was purchased as a site for a new bank building and on September 23, 1902, plans were accepted for the new building. A two story brick and stone building was erected and continued in use until 1925 when additional space was added on the Liberty Street side and a third floor added.

On November 13, 1928, W. H. Binns, president, and W. S. Nicodemus, cashier, retired and were succeeded by J. Albert Reed as president and William C. Grimes as cashier.

Andrew Zemany came to the bank as manager of the foreign department March 14, 1914, and continued in this capacity until March 15, 1948, when he retired on account of illness. Richard M. Cole succeeded I. H. Stephens as teller on May 21, 1918. On April 22, 1924, he was elected Assistant Cashier to succeed Frank H. McCue and holds the position at the present time.

The bank has maintained a steady growth and the statement of condition as reported April 11, 1949, shows total assets of \$3,294,825.06. Capital and Surplus amounted to \$327,854.16, with total deposits of \$2,966,970.90. The capital stock was increased from \$50,000 to \$100,000 on January 8, 1924. The total amount paid to shareholders as dividends since organization amounts to \$444,750.00. Interest paid to depositors to April 11, 1949, totals \$1,153,-906.85.

Mr. E. A. Siemon was elected president of the board of directors on Jan. 12, 1937, which position he now occupies. D. R. Blower and A. B. Linhart are first and second vice-presidents, respectively, who with William C. Grimes as cashier and Richard M. Cole as assistant cashier, are the active officers. The board of directors is as follows: Matthew Blair, D. R. Blower, E. R. Cooper, William C. Grimes, A. B. Linhart, E. A. Siemon, William Simpson and Charles Winfield.

PEOPLES BANK OF CALIFORNIA

Since its founding in 1900, this banking institution has worked for the progress of California and community and has been closely allied with its development.

The Peoples Bank of California had its origin merely as the Peoples Bank on April 18, 1900, with a capital of \$75,000.00.

Trust powers were granted and the corporate title changed to Peoples Bank & Trust Company on July 1, 1924. Capital at that time was increased to \$125,000.00. On June 1, 1939, trust powers were relinquished and charter was changed to read Peoples Bank of California.

The Peoples Bank of California began business in the old brick building at the corner of Wood & Second Streets, with the banks present home structure being completed on Labor Day, 1901.

A. B. Duvall was the first president, and other officers were: Dr. G. B. Frantz, first vice president; R. J. Gregg, second vice president, and L. Z. Birmingham, first cashier.

The first Board of Directors was composed of A. B. Duvall, G. B. Frantz, R. J. Gregg, Joseph Dixon, Theodore B. Noss, Thomas C. Richards, J. B. Crowthers, R. B. Drum, and J. E. Masters.

A. B. Duvall served as president of the bank until 1906, when G. B. Frantz was named to that office. Mr. E. M. Lilley was elected president in 1944.

Following Mr. Birmingham as cashier was C. F. Piper, who was elected in 1901 and served until 1907; T. J. Underwood served as cashier from 1908 to 1910, and he was followed by E. M. Lilley, who served from 1911 to 1918; John S. Duvall was cashier for the next year, and in 1920 John R. Gregg was elected to the position he now holds.

Total resources of the bank as of December 31, 1948, are \$2,905,742.08, and during its life paid \$165,525.00 in dividends.

Present officers of the bank are: E. M. Lilley, president; Frank Armour, vice president; John H. Gregg, cashier; W. C. Edwards, assistant cashier.

Present board of directors include: Frank Armour, Charles A. Gallagher, John R. Gregg, E. M. Lilley, Harold D. McCleary, Wm. J. Miller, Strickler W. Pollock and J. Olan Yarnall.

